

**'Rosa Parks' tells of life***Post observes Black History Month*

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Fort Riley Post

**Company teams continue play***1st Maintenance, Task Force Dependable win games*

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Friday, February 24, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 49, No. 8

Around Fort Riley**Cell phone restriction on hold**

Fort Riley has delayed enforcement of a new Defense Department directive prohibiting drivers from talking on a cell phone in a moving privately owned vehicle unless using a hands-free device.

"We have to have a published post policy and signs at the gates about the restriction before we can legally enforce it," explained Ray Coffey, physical security officer for Fort Riley.

The DoD directive established the restriction effective Jan. 1. It also prohibits drivers of military vehicles from using a cell phone without a hands-free device.

Coffey said a drafted post policy is being reviewed. As soon as a policy is published and signs are posted at the entrances to Fort Riley, enforcement will begin, Coffey said. He could not estimate when that would be.

Around the Army**Fort Knox:**

The Turret reported Feb. 16 that up until 2005, Fort Knox's inventory contained the oldest M1A1 Abrams tanks in the force.

But Knox's problems have steadily been on the mend, thanks to the M1A1 Abrams Integrated Management program that began four years ago and newer tanks being sent to the post.

Cracks in the tank's hull, suspension problems and worn out electrical functions were just some of the problems Soldiers encountered when they trained at Knox. The tanks were constantly put through intensive maintenance programs, but the costs for repairs and labor continued to escalate.

The tanks that recently arrived on post are from the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. Like many units, the division's mission has changed as the Army has modularized. As part of 2nd Inf. Div.'s modularization, its M1A1 authorization went from 120 tanks down to 60.

For more on this story and other Fort Knox, Ky., news, visit www.thenewstribune.com/turret/ on the Web.

Fort Stewart:

The Frontline reported Feb. 23 that because a greater number of women are being deployed, mother-child relationships and the mother's readiness for military operations can be affected greatly.

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Mona Ternus, a reserve nurse and professor at the University of New Mexico College of Nursing, is conducting a study to identify issues associated with deployment and military mothers of adolescent children. Ternus is seeking volunteers among military mothers of children aged 12 to 18 years to take part in her study.

For more on this story and other Fort Stewart, Ga., news, visit www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?brd=1390 on the Web.



Post/Skidmore
When Soldiers from Co. B, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., participated in a training exercise at the MOUT site on Fort Riley, they were confronted by actual Iraqi speaking contractors who added realism to the exercise.

Training turns 'real'

Iraqis add dimension to Fort Riley exercise

By Gary Skidmore
Command Info. Officer

Spec. Juan Tavaréz served in Iraq.

He experienced crowds of wailing Iraqis approaching his patrol.

He conducted random searches of Iraqi homes, looking for weapons and insurgents.

And, he lived through personal attacks and attacks on Soldiers of

his platoon when they entered Iraqi villages.

For a second or two, while he and his platoon approached the

mock village built in Training Area 44 on Fort Riley's prairie, he

thought he was back in Iraq.

"It was real for a few minutes,"

Tavaréz said. "I kind of got a

mental flashback when we

approached the village and the people playing Iraqis actually

platoon was participating in a platoon-sized force-on-force exercise the middle of February.

Lt. Col. David Batchelor, commander of 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, said the exercise was a prerequisite before his soldiers could move on to a platoon live-fire exercise. "We use this training

as a certification and training requirement before the platoon

See Iraqi 'players,' Page 4

Exercising skills

'Iron Rangers' attack Table 12

'Foot Soldiers' join Bradley crews on range

By Amanda Kim Stairrett
Staff writer

Some Soldiers at Fort Riley recently conducted what one infantry battalion officer on post described as the most realistic training available for infantry companies anywhere.

That training came to fruition for companies of 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Brigade Combat Team, Feb. 15 with Table 12 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle gunnery at the Multi-Purpose Range Complex on the northwest portion of the installation.

Table 12 is the culminating event of Bradley training for a mechanized infantry unit.

Infantry training is divided into tables or scenarios that indicate the military elements that participate in the exercises. Table 12 is a combination of Bradleys and dismounted Soldiers participating on foot in live-fire exercises.

Soldiers began working up to Table 12 weeks before, running through scenarios with separate groups of vehicles and dismounted Soldiers, starting at team, squad and platoon levels. Before live-fire exercises are conducted, Sol-

See Bradleys, Page 6



Post/Morlock
Spec. Loretta Streichert subdues Spec. Matthew Snoke while Spec. Carl Dreis provides cover during hasty attack training for the 977th MP Co. Soldiers Feb. 15.

MPs respond to 'hasty attack'

See story about families visiting field

Page 2

By Anna Morelock
Staff Writer

In a combat situation, members of the 977th Military Police Company might be on a patrol and receive word they are needed elsewhere at a moment's notice. The company was in the field Feb. 13-16, preparing for just such a hasty attack situation.

"We are the force of choice,"

said Sgt. 1st Class Jason Fitzpatrick, platoon sergeant, about the MPs. "Everyone wants MPs. We shoot, move and communicate very well."

MPs are supposed to be able to shift on the fly, be self-sufficient for 72 hours and be very maneuverable, Fitzpatrick said. "This is our mission. This is how we cut our teeth."

To prepare for such situations, the MPs practiced a

slowed down version of a hasty attack while they were in the field.

The process was slowed down so the company leadership could get an honest assessment of Soldier leaders and how they handled tasks, Fitzpatrick said. The training is tailored for squad-sized elements because that's how the MPs

See Hasty attack, Page 3

Team works to improve employee satisfaction

Group tackles communication, training first

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Poor communication up and down the organization structure and development of non-supervisory civilian employees head the issues being addressed by a special committee at Fort Riley.

Post employees surveyed within the past year identified those two areas as the biggest deterrents to job satisfaction at Fort Riley, explained Kristi Moneyppenny of the Directorate of Morale, Wel-

fare and Recreation.

She is one of 11 members on the Employee Satisfaction Improvement Team set up more than a year ago to find ways to improve employee job satisfaction at Fort Riley.

The committee's overriding goal is to make Fort Riley "the desired place of employment for federal service employees," said Todd Douglass, a workforce development specialist in the Plans, Analysis and Integration Branch, U.S. Army Garrison.

Douglass serves as the committee's facilitator.

The most recent Command Climate Survey showed 26.6 percent of the supervisory and general workforce employees responding rated communication as the biggest detractor to their job satisfaction.

Non-supervisory employees showed a slightly higher concern (27.5 percent) about the quality and effectiveness of communication than supervisors did. General

See ESIT, Page 4

Got a suggestion?

Suggestions for improving non-supervisory employee development or organizational communication can be submitted to Employee Satisfaction Improvement Team members or online at www.riley.army.mil/Units/GC.

Members of the team are: Jane Gallant, GS, 239-8384; Ruth Greiner, DOIM, 239-3646; Sam Guy, Chaplain's Office, 239-2694; Teresa Jaime, DOL, 239-

4224; Teresa Johnson, DMWR, 239-8990; Ed Kozlowski, DPW, 239-6298; Kristi Moneyppenny, DMWR, 239-8439; Veronica Pope, DPTMS, 239-0969; David Porter, DPW ED, 239-6642; Marvin Springer, DPW, 239-3353; Chris Blodgett, PMO, 239-6344.





Post, Army news briefly

IBCT land nav winners named

Col. Ricky Gibbs, commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, has announced winners of the Feb. 10 land navigation exercise he conducted for junior officers along a 4.581-mile site near the post recreation area on the bluff overlooking McCormick Road and park.

The top five were Capt. Rich Helling, Company E, 610th Brigade Support Battalion; Capt. Scott Smith, Company A, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment; Capt. Jeff Jager, Company D, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf.; Capt. Tyler Andersen, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Bn., 16th Inf.; and Capt. Bret Hamilton, Co. A, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment.

CID recruiting special agents

The U.S. Army's Criminal Investigation Command is seeking qualified applicants to become highly trained criminal investigators. Special agents investigate all felony crime of Army interest, conduct protective service operations and work closely with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to solve crime and combat terrorism.

Agents receive initial training at the U.S. Army Military Police School and additional training in specialized investigative disciplines. Selected agents receive advanced training at the FBI Academy, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center and the Canadian Police College, as well as an opportunity to pursue a master's degree in forensic science.

Qualified applicants must be a U.S. citizen, at least 21 years old with at least two years of service completed but not more than eight, possess at least 60 semester hours of college credit and a general technical score of at least 110.

A minimum of six months police experience is preferred, but not required. To apply or for more information, visit www.cid.army.mil on the Web or stop by a local CID office.

Tournaments change air times

The Big 12 and NCAA basketball tournaments that will air on Channel 13 will move "In Step With Fort Riley" to 4:30 a.m. for four consecutive Saturdays - March 11, 18 and 25 and April 1.

"In Step With Fort Riley" will return to 7 a.m. air time beginning with the April 9 show.

Toastmasters slate meeting

Old Bill's Toastmasters is seeking new members from the Fort Riley and Junction City area.

Old Bill's Toastmasters' next meeting is scheduled from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. March 2 at Fire Station No. 2, 2245 Lacy Drive, in Junction City, Kan. Old Bill's Toastmasters meets every first and third Thursday of the month. Meetings are free and open to the general public.

For specific information about the meeting and directions, call Jim Hill at 761-1130.

SAMC to host bowling night

The Fort Riley Sergeant Audie Murphy Club chapter is planning its first "Bowling Night" from 6 to 8 p.m. March 16 - 95-cent burger night - at the Custer Hill Bowling Center.

All members are asked to attend, socialize, bowl, have some fun ... and wear their SAMC T-shirt.

For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Darlene Washington at 239-7333.



Post/Morelock
Pfc. Leeland Vandeloche, his girlfriend, Sheila and her son, Dillon, move through the buffet line while Jocelynn Taylor waits for her turn. Members of the 977th MPs shared their Valentine's Day dinner with their families while in the field.



Post/Morelock
Before dinner Feb. 14, families toured the camp with their Soldiers and took a close look at the MPs' equipment.

Families dine 'in the field'

MPs share Valentine's meal

By Anna Morelock

Staff writer

Members of the 977th Military Police Company spent Valentine's Day in the field, but they didn't have to spend it alone.

First Sgt. David Ellison said he originally suggested bringing the family readiness group to the field site as a joke.

"We felt bad about having (the Soldiers) out in the field, and there was an FRG meeting that night," Ellison said. So, the two groups were brought together.

Wives and children of the Soldiers met at the MP barracks on Main Post carrying cookies and Valentine's treats, loaded onto a bus and went to join their Soldiers.

Soldiers then had time to show their families around the camp before the Valentine's Day dinner was served in a dining facility.

Kids climbed into "Humvees," peered into tents and ran around in the open spaces.

Ellison's daughter, Lilly, tried on his Kevlar helmet in his tent. His other daughter, Aislinn, was happy playing with a stick in front of a "Humvee."

"I think it's neat he's willing to do this," said Ellison's wife, Heather, "and that the higher ups are, too."

The Valentine's celebration lasted until around 6 p.m., when the families headed back home on the bus.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or anna.morelock@riley.army.mil.



Post/Morelock
Families meet with their Soldiers after being bussed to the field training area for Valentine's Day dinner.

AFTER DARK VIDEO
2 x 2'
Black Only
202 At Dr Video Pab TP

JIM CLARK
2 x 4'
Black Only
204 Bruce Barnett

CHRISTIAN BOOKS & GIFTS
2 x 4'
Black Only
204 Christian Mtl Appreciation

SPRINT-NEBRASKA PRESS
4 x 10.5"
Black Only
TUNE IN 4333003 SPR



Staff Sgt. Nicholas Wiley (center), 977th MP Co., briefs members of his squad before their mission during a field exercise this month.
Post/Morelock

Hasty attack continued from page 1

work, he added.

While the wind howled outside, Staff Sgt. Nicholas Wiley sat in the tactical operations center with his head bent over a notebook. Wiley was the leader for the afternoon mission and was making his initial plans for the attack. For this mission, Wiley had three "Humvees," each manned by a team leader, a driver and a gunner.

After finishing his plan, Wiley and his squad practiced maneuvers in a nearby field while the leaders completed their reconnaissance for the mission and the opposition forces tested improvised explosive device simulators.

"It's a challenge," Fitzpatrick said of the training. "It's a lot of fun."

The MP company doesn't get out as often as it would like to, he said. Besides training for combat situations, members of the 977th MPs have to be on the road policing Fort Riley part of the week.

"We're so diverse in what we do," Fitzpatrick said. "We go from training one day to spit and polish the next."

After rehearsal, Wiley gathered his squad to brief them on their operation order. An Iraqi mortar team had been spotted in the area, and it was their mission to take them out.

"It's going to be fast and furious," Wiley told his squad, "but keep safety in mind."

The three teams loaded into their "Humvees."

"Lock and load," Sgt. John Allen, team leader in the lead truck shouted to his driver and gunner.

Bumping over the tank trails,

the gunner swiveled in the hatch, watching for the enemy. Allen monitored the radio, watched for the following "Humvees" and shouted directions to his driver.

"Go! Go! Go!" Allen shouted above the noise of the engine while waving his hand in a forward motion. And then, just as suddenly, "Stop!"

Allen kept his eye on the other "Humvees" as he directed his team's vehicle into position.

The squad members finally spotted members of the Iraqi mortar team – at least some of them.

While two of the teams positioned their vehicles, dismounted and fired on the enemy they located, ambushers attacked the third team, taking out the whole team, including Wiley.

There were casualties, but the teams did a good job, said 2nd Lt. Travis McGrann, platoon leader, about the mission. The other leaders stepped up and took charge, he said.

The mission was successful, but with a hiccup, Fitzpatrick said. "I can't wait to tell his platoon sergeant how well he did," he added about Wiley's planning and leadership.

The teams were effective on the objective, Fitzpatrick said. "Those who didn't take anything away from the training didn't put anything into it."

Mission accomplished, the squad headed back to the main camp to prepare for their part in the next mission of the day.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or anna.morelock@riley.army.mil.



Post/Morelock

A cloud of baby powder and paintballs sprays into the air as Sgt. Chad Fishman tests an improvised explosive device simulator. Fishman was a member of the opposition forces for the 977th MP Co.'s hasty attack exercise.

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS-ABILENE
2 x 5"
Black Only
2x5 Holiday Inn- Abilene

LEES WESTERN WEAR
2 x 3"
Black Only
2x3 Lee's Western

UNION PACIFIC-APC
2 x 5"
Black Only
665634 U.P. HIRING FAIR

LITTLE APPLE TOYOTA/HONDA
4 x 7"
Black Only
4X7 LittAppToyota Honda Ad

CRUMS
2 x 3.5"
Black Only
2x3.5 Crums Feb TF

AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE
2 x 10"
Black Only
2x10 Engle Renters





A Co. B, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., Soldier keeps an eye on the "village Imman" (left) during a recent platoon level training exercise. The Soldiers had to deal with protesting villagers, insurgents and community leaders during the exercise.

Post/Skidmore



Post/Skidmore

Playing the part of a sick and dying villager, an Iraqi contractor lays on the ground and waits for help. The contractors participated in a 1st Bn., 41st Inf., platoon level training exercise.

Employees seek donated leave

Staff report

Several Fort Riley employees with personal or family medical emergencies face more than 24 hours of Leave without Pay. Some have asked fellow employees at Fort Riley to consider donating leave to ease their situation.

Current employees needing donated leave include:
Araldo Valdemar, Directorate of Logistics, control number CPA-CLT2304
Margaret Franzen, Directorate of Plans, Training, Maneuvers and Security, control number CPA-CLT2505
Barbara Lewis, Medical Department Activity, control number CPA-CLT2905

Valerie Fegurgur, Directorate of Public Works, control number CPA-CLT3105

Carter LaVon, Fort Riley University, control number CPA-CLT3205

Carolyn Christensen, DPW, control number CPA-CLT3605

Elizabeth Sims, MEDDAC, control number CPA-CLT3805
Daisy Simmons, MEDDAC, control number CPA-CLT3905

Anne Woodmansee, DPW, control number CPA-CLT4105

Fracyllynn Tome, Southwest Civilian Personnel Operations Center, control number CPA-CLT2026

Crystal Bethel, SWCPOC, control number CPA-CLT0306

To donate annual leave to any of these individuals, civilian employees must complete an OPM Form 630a.

The form is located on the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Intranet Web site under "Forms," OPM Web site <http://www.opm.gov/>.

Completed forms should be forwarded to: Durlene Bryson, Human Resources Assistant, CPAC.

For more information about leave donation procedures, contact an activity's administrative point of contact or call 239-6080.

Iraqi 'players'

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goes to the next phase of its training," Batchelor said.

The exercise required the platoon to maneuver through a village with indigenous personnel. In this particular village, some were pro-American and some weren't, Batchelor explained. The exercise players included a village Patriarch, Matriarch and Imam for the platoon leader to encounter. Depending on who's asked, information may or may not be easy to get, Batchelor pointed out.

The training scenario isn't new to Fort Riley or to its Soldiers going through the training. What's new is the use of actual Iraqis playing the part of villagers.

"Using the Iraqis is a test case for Fort Riley," Batchelor said. "It works very well. It's incredible to watch the young leaders grow from their first engagement to subsequent engagements," he said.

You can't measure the goodness that comes out of using people of Iraqi ethnicity in this case because they offer so much in regard to the After Action Review process. They actually tell you how well you did from an actual Iraqi citizen's perspective. You just can't get that feedback from Soldiers playing the part," he said.

Runak Rasheed played the part of the interpreter during the exercises. Ten years ago, she and her husband had been sentenced to death by Saddam Hussein for teaching the America culture to Iraqis.



"We try to help the Soldiers save lives of the Iraqi people and at the same time learn to survive themselves,"

— Bakhtiaf Gozehame
Iraqi contractor

"In Iraq, the people are very loud and animated," Rasheed said. "They have so much in their hearts, so they show it. In Iraq, it's common for 10 people to talk at the same time; and for America Soldiers, it's like a crowd getting ready to riot, so we show the Soldiers what they will face over there and talk to them about how they reacted and what they could do differently."

Rasheed became a naturalized America citizen less than a week before the exercise. She said, as long as lives would be saved, she felt her place was in the field helping train the Soldiers.

"This is very important training," she said. "We are exposing the Soldiers to real life experiences ... experiences they wouldn't necessarily get from other Soldiers."

Bakhtiaf Gozeh, a Kurd, was gassed by Saddam Hussein forces when they attacked his village. He survived the attacks and now trains Soldiers how to deal with Iraqis, and at the same time to search for insurgents and gather information.

"We try to help the Soldiers save lives of the Iraqi people and at the same time learn to survive themselves," Gozeh said. "It teaches them to look for insurgents and get information and how to treat the Iraqi people they will meet."

It's important for U.S. Soldiers to make their mistakes on the training field rather than the battlefield, Batchelor said; because, once they're in Iraq, a mistake can be fatal.

"I've got nine platoon leaders in the battalion and only two have been to Iraq," Batchelor said. If they make a mistake here, the Iraqis and I will bring that up at the AARs. If they make a mistake in Iraq, someone could get killed; so we take this very seriously."

For 1st Lt. Thomas Slykhuis, a platoon leader in Company B, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., that meant taking his platoon through his assault on the village twice.

"I made some mistakes," Slykhuis said. "I'll make more, but it was good training and a great way to evaluate myself and the platoon."

GEARY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
3 x 15"
Black Only
3x15 Docs Dir

ESIT

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employees ranked poor communication No. 1 among areas they considered unsatisfactory.

A little more than one-fifth of the responding supervisory employees (22.7 percent) ranked communication as their third highest concern. Supervisors surveyed were more concerned with poor managerial practices (24.9 percent) and lack of rewards and recognition (23.9 percent).

On the most recent survey, non-supervisory employees showed dissatisfaction about job rotation and cross-training being used to improve their skills (34.8 percent), special projects available to learn new skills and knowledge while remaining in their current job (32.2 percent) and new employees being adequately trained before being put on their own (32.5 percent).

Fort Riley has surveyed its civilian workforce about job satisfaction four times in the past six years, Douglass said.

The first three surveys went only to employees of U.S. Army Garrison. The last survey went to garrison employees and U.S. Forces Command civilian employees working on post, Douglass said.

Tenant organizations on Fort Riley, such as Medical Department Activity and the Civilian Personnel Operations Center, were not included in the survey, he said, because Fort Riley is not responsible for them.

Fort Riley was surveying civilians about the command climate every two years, but the garrison commander decided he wanted better tracking of employee satisfaction, so he asked that the survey be conducted annually. Dou-

glass said.

All four surveys show no significant changes in employee levels of satisfaction, and that has generally been interpreted as positive, Douglass said.

In Douglass' view, showing 30 percent or more of the civilian workforce dissatisfied with some part of their work environment isn't acceptable. He sees formation of the committee as a positive step toward lessening employee dissatisfaction on post.

The Employee Satisfaction Improvement Team used the survey data to determine the issues creating the most job dissatisfaction on post. Now they will formulate programs to improve those conditions with the goal of ultimately improving individual job satisfaction.

Committee members have begun developing ideas to address the lack of training and professional development for non-supervisory employees. Once a person becomes a supervisor, lots of opportunities for professional development exist, Moneypenny said. "But there's nothing that helps you prepare to become a supervisor," she added.

The committee would welcome employee input on the issue, said Teresa Jaime, the Directorate of Logistics representative on the committee.

"But we don't want complaints," she interjected. "We want ideas for improvement. We want to hear from someone who says, 'You know what I think would help ...'"

The team also will look at ways to improve the spread of information throughout the organization's staffing. One example of the need

for better communications, Douglass pointed out, is the lack of awareness about the garrison's award policy.

Some directorates are aware of the policy for employee recognition and use it well, he said, while others are not using the policy to their advantage. "The command needs to answer the question of how all directorates handle awards to civilian employees," he said.

"Some directorates do a good job of communicating, others don't. DOL, for example, has its own newsletter for employees," Douglass added. Other organizations use newsletters to inform their employees, but one method of getting the information out isn't sufficient, committee members meeting Feb. 15 agreed. Flyers, email, posters, etc., also contribute to employee awareness of what is happening within their work environment and on post, they reminded.

Once the team comes up with plans to improve working conditions on post, the plans will be presented to the garrison commander, Douglass said. Then, the committee members will help the garrison commander implement his or her plan of action.

Mike Heronemus can be contacted at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or 239-8854.



Commentary

Friday, February 24, 2006

Fort Riley Post

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Riley Roundtable

This week's question:

If you had the authority to do so, what would you change to improve Fort Riley?



"More on-post housing for lower enlisteds. We can't find anything off-post, and it costs more than if they rent to somebody who's not in the military. I have a friend living in an apartment complex in Manhattan who is paying twice what college student is paying in the same complex."

Pfc. Michael Bradberry
Infantryman
Co. C, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry
Home: San Antonio



"Inprocessing. It takes too long. I spent three weeks there."

Pvt. Desirea Feleke
Medical supply specialist
Co. C, 610th Brigade Support Bn.
Home: Metamora, Ill.



"Put the commissary and the PX closer together, next to each other. The best place would be on Custer Hill, because a lot of single Soldiers have to walk, and there are a lot of families living up there."

Staff Sgt. Willie Hodge
Combat engineer
1st Engineer Battalion
Home: Jefferson, Texas



"The 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, barracks need to be torn down and rebuilt. I don't live in them, but I see what the Soldiers have to live in."

Sfc. Craig Jackson
Scout
HHC, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry
Home: Chester, Calif.



"Build more and better quality family housing. Even in the newest housing on post, sound carries from upstairs to downstairs. Have weekly activities for families and Soldiers, like concerts, a carnival, book signings."

Sgt. 1st Class Eric Jackson
Cadre member
125th Forward Support Bn.
Home: Miami

Next week's question:

What do you think contributes the most to job satisfaction?

Opinions may be e-mailed to the editor at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or faxed to the editor at 239-2592. Opinions must reach the editor by close of business Tuesdays to appear in the following Friday's paper.

Internet increases ID theft risk

Servicemembers shopping online, managing finances online or reading an e-mail that claims to need information should not give personal information to any Web site or e-mail request that seems suspicious.

Any unsolicited e-mail asking for personal or financial information should be considered suspicious. These e-mails look real and claim that you need to log in to a Web site to verify personal data in order to protect your account.

Servicemembers should always contact their bank or credit card company before doing so, in order to determine whether the e-mail is genuine.

Servicemembers who think they may be identity theft victims should contact authorities. They also should contact banks and credit card companies involved, alerting them that someone may be using their personal information.

To find out more about identity theft, visit the Federal Trade Commission's "ID Theft Home" at <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>.

Talking from experience

Military hospital's war is against death

By Thomas E. Hastings
AFPS

NEW CASTLE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Del. — News of the grievous wounds recently suffered by two ABC television journalists covering the war in Iraq drew my attention for a special reason.

They were rushed to the Air Force Theater Hospital at Balad Air Base, north of Baghdad. They couldn't have been taken to a better battlefield hospital. I know, because for six weeks last summer I worked there as a radiology technologist.

Balad is a long way from southern New Jersey, where my family lives. The war, as it is portrayed at home these days by some politicians who see it only as a lost cause, is a long way from the war that I saw played out every day at the hospital.

Here, there is much bickering about the merits of the war and strategies to win it. There, at the hospital, I saw single-minded commitment to saving lives — Americans and Iraqis, friend or foe.

The base is nicknamed "Mortartaville" and it lives up to its name. The base is frequently attacked with rockets and mortars.

The hospital consists of a series of contiguous tents and is surrounded by concrete "barriers" for protection. Inside, sand and dust were everywhere. There was constant noise from the diesel generators that provided electrical power.

On my first day, I found my way through the maze-like corridors to the radiology department. The master sergeant in charge said there were two 12-hour shifts with no days off.

When informed of the work hours, I told my daughter, Alison, that six weeks would fly by. I used the words "chump change" to describe the six-week deployment. She got upset with me when I used these words.

I was assigned to the day shift with two other technologists and a radiologist. The department had three CT scanners, an ultrasound machine and diagnostic radiology equipment.

One of my assignments was to work on the trauma team. When a Black Hawk medical evacuation chopper landed in the hospital compound, a monotone voice would say over the hospital public address system, "Attention, trauma call. Radiology, pharmacy and respiratory therapy, report immediately to the emergency room."

Then we would gather up X-ray film cassettes and walk briskly to the ER. Trauma calls went out two to four times a day.

When the casualties came in, the ER became a scene of controlled chaos. Doctors and medics frantically yelled out orders and requests. The ER team moved quickly.

There is a golden hour to save a life. The three ABCs were crucial: provide an open airway, ensure the patient is breathing and their blood circulation is functioning properly.

When the patient was carefully rolled over onto his side for examination, I carefully positioned the film for a chest X-ray. Upon my order, another technologist shot the film.

The film was digitally processed minutes later. Sometimes you could see a medic's hand in the film.

The doctors needed a chest film quickly. They were looking for many things. For instance, shrapnel or bullets can cause a pneumothorax, or punctured lung, which is very serious. Sometimes, a surgeon had to insert a chest tube into the patient immediately after the film was reviewed.

After about a week of this activity and with some coaching from my fellow technologists, I developed a rather good technique. Day by day, I began to

feel more confident in my abilities, and, maybe for the first time in my military career, I became an important part of a lifesaving team.

The surgeons, doctors, nurses and medics were amazing. They were active duty personnel, reservists or guardsmen. There was also a contingent of Australian medics. All worked as a seamless team.

Most of the injuries were caused by improvised explosive devices. It never mattered whether the patients were Iraqi civilians, insurgents, contractors or U.S. military personnel. That ER staff worked on every patient with the same resolve.

Some patients died, and some did not.

Occasionally when a patient died, someone in the ER would ask, "Was he American?"

The answer never really seemed to matter. We all felt bad at every death. Usually there were more casualties that required your attention. So you just moved on to the next patient.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the hospital had clinic days for Iraqi civilians. The patients had war-related injuries that required medical follow-up. It didn't seem to matter that they didn't speak English. Hand gestures and simple words were enough to communicate.

On Sept. 7, 2005, I was summoned into a guarded room in the ER. I performed a portable chest X-ray on an American civilian. He looked to be around the same age as me.

I thought that he was probably a contractor. Next to him was an Iraqi detainee for whom I did an extremity X-ray. A plastic band bound the Iraqi's wrists, and an American Soldier guarded him with an M-16.

The next day I saw a TV news report that the U.S. military had rescued an American contractor, Roy Hallums. He had been kidnapped and held for ransom. He was kept in a hole for 10 months by his Iraqi captors. After a physical, he was going home, the report said.

My last duty day was Sept. 11, 2005, a rather poignant date on which to end my six-week tour.

Four years before, after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, I was activated to work in the Dover Air Force Base, Del., mortuary as a radiology technologist. I was assigned to a forensic team to help identify the 189 victims of the attack on the Pentagon.

I'll never forget that duty. The radiology personnel assigned to the Dover mortuary are remarkable people. They perform their difficult painstaking duties day in and day out with little fanfare and with the utmost professionalism.

They truly personify the Air Force core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do.

Looking back on these life-changing experiences, I feel proud and humbled that I was able to make a small yet valuable contribution to the global war on terrorism. To work on a team that saves the lives of these brave Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines is truly an honor and a privilege.

My thoughts, prayers and thanks go out to all of our servicemembers who have and will enter the "patriot gateway" to a deployed location in Southwest Asia in support of our support Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Air National Guard Master Sgt. Thomas E. Hastings is a systems analyst in Philadelphia. He lives in Gloucester Township, N.J., and is a member of the Delaware Air National Guard. The original article was printed Feb. 6 in the Philadelphia Inquirer's South Jersey Commentary section and is reprinted here with that newspaper's permission.

Grunt By Wayne Uhden

THERE ARE THREE RULES I TRY TO LIVE BY... FIRST, ALWAYS LOOK COOL, SECOND, ALWAYS KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, AND FINALLY, IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, TRY TO LOOK COOL...



Dollars and sense

'Combat' savings add to retirement

By Patrick A. Swan
Army News Service

Logging it out each day in a combat zone has plenty of drawbacks, not the least of which is getting shot at routinely by the bad guys.

One of the good things a combat zone offers us is that our wages here are not subject to federal or state income taxes. That tax-exempt status adds a little bit more money to our paychecks.

Another good thing is that our Thrift Savings Plan contributions are tax-free as well. That adds a little bit more money to our future retirement checks.

For those who need a reminder, the Thrift Savings Plan is a voluntary retirement savings-and-investment plan. We pay no taxes on the money we save and earn through TSP until we withdraw them from our account. And we never pay any taxes on our TSP combat-zone savings (only on the earnings from those savings).

The rules have changed recently. You can start making contributions to the Thrift Savings Plan at any time during the year. It is strongly suggested that you start TSP before you enter a combat zone, but if you're in one now, get to a Web site as soon as possible. You can start, change or stop contributions at any time by using the myPay Web site (www.mypay.dafamil). If the Web is not available, there is still Form TSP-U-1, which is submitted to finance for processing.

This year, a servicemember may contribute any percentage of his or her basic pay, incentive,

special or bonus pay. This means if you want to contribute 100 percent of any extra pay you receive for hostile fire or special duty, you can do it under the TSP guidelines. For details, visit the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov> or log onto <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

Taking a close look at what TSP offers us is important for a big reason: One day this war will be over. Those of us who return home will serve out our military obligation and one day retire.

When we are less healthy and less able to get around as we do now: • We'll draw military pensions, for which we will pay tax.

• We'll draw civilian pensions, for which we will pay tax. • We'll draw dollars from traditional Individual Retirement Accounts, for which we will pay tax.

But, when we draw from our TSP accounts, we won't pay tax on that portion we socked away while we served in the combat zone.

The more money we save now with TSP will mean more tax-free money in our old age when we are boring our grandchildren with tales of life in a combat zone in the great Global War on Terrorism.

That pocket change could certainly come in handy then — by using the added means to purchase ice cream for those grandchildren burdened with listening to our war stories.

Maj. Patrick Swan serves with the 204th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

FORT RILEY POST

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Publisher-Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy
Public Affairs Officer-Maj. Christian Kubik
Command Information Officer-Gary Skidmore
Printer-John G. Montgomery
Fort Riley Editorial Staff
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Circulation 8,800 copies each week
By mail \$20 per year
A licensed newspaper member of the Junction City and Manhattan chambers of commerce





1st Bn., 16th Inf., Bradleys and a "Humvee" drive through the smoke of a fast-moving blaze on the Multi-Purpose Range Complex range Feb. 15. The infantry Soldiers were participating in a Bradley Table 12 training exercise when the grass caught fire from the live rounds they fired.

Post/Stairrett

Bradleys

continued from page 1

diers must complete a Table 11 exercise that includes vehicles and dismounts using blank ammunition.

Sgt. Chris Taylor of Company B, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., is his platoon sergeant's gunner. Taking a break outside a barracks building at the range complex, he said his company didn't participate in tables very often, and he had never participated in a Table 12. His company was going out the next day to conduct Tables 11 and 12.

The Feb. 15 live-fire exercise combined several weapons systems, dismounted Soldiers and four Bradleys in scenarios requiring a hasty defense, reaction to an improvised explosive device, seeking an objective and performing retrograde operations.

The weapons included M-16 rifles, M-203 grenade launchers, M-240B machine guns, the Bradley's 25mm chain gun and two TOWs (Tube-launched, Optically tracked, Wire command-link guided missiles).

Wood said Table 12 training was so rare that a lot of mechanized platoon leaders won't ever have the chance to conduct it.

He proudly surveyed the field in front of him as a squad of infantry Soldiers laid down a blanket of fire on targets that popped up on the range. "That's the sound of freedom," he said amidst the shouting, M-16 pops and M-203 plunks.

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at amanda.kim.stairrett@us.army.mil or 239-3977.



Post/Stairrett

Dismounted Soldiers load into a Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle Feb. 15 during a 1st Bn., 16th Inf., Table 12 exercise. The Soldiers had just fired at pop-up targets on the Multi-Purpose Range Complex.



Post/Stairrett

Dismounted Soldiers of 1st Bn., 16th Inf., charge over a hill at the Multi-Purpose Range Complex during a Bradley Table 12 training exercise Feb. 15.



1st Lt. David Doutre (left) of the 1st Bn., 16th Inf., S1 office, and Maj. David Wood, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., executive officer, watch vehicles roll by during a Bradley Table 12 exercise Feb. 15. Four Bradleys and about 40 Soldiers participated in the training scenario.

Post/Stairrett

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Victim advocates will answer all calls

By Anna Morelock

Staff writer

A 2002 Department of Defense Family Advocacy Program report states that more than 18,000 incidents of spousal abuse were reported in 2001.

In 62 percent of those cases the abuser was an active duty military member. In 38 percent of the cases, the abuser was a civilian spouse of an active duty member.

Sixty-six percent of the time the victim was female and 34 percent of the time the victim was a male.

Advocates offer 24-hour response

In one of the many ways specialists on post are working to assist any victim of domestic violence, post victim advocates have established a 24-hour response telephone line they will answer around the clock. That service started Feb. 3.

"We'll be able to provide immediate response to victims regardless of what time of day it is," said Jill Shanteau, lead victim advocate for the Fort Riley Victim Advocate Program.

Two installation victim advocates rotate the 24-hour responsibility of being on call and providing support to individuals who have experienced domestic violence or sexual assault.

"We work with victims on their options regardless of whether they want to stay in the relationship or not," Shanteau said. "We provide them with information and resources so that they can make informed decisions about what it

is they want to do."

The advocates work to give the victims a sense of empowerment, said Victim Advocate Program Coordinator Margaret Dukes.

"We give them the opportunity to be in control, to make informed decisions," Dukes said, "and then the victim or survivor begins to take ownership of how we serve them. We never take that away from them."

When the response line phone rings, the advocate starts the process of education and empowerment by explaining how the process operates.

Right now, the advocates operate on limited confidentiality, Shanteau said. Army regulation mandates that any instance of domestic violence that has not been reported to the military police must be reported by the advocates.

"Chaplains and legal assistance attorneys right now are the only completely confidential resource in the Army and the military," Shanteau said.

Limited confidentiality means the advocates have to report any information they learn pertaining to child abuse or domestic violence, Dukes said. "There are many other things that they (victims) can share with us that we do not have to share."

"We also make sure victims know that we can refer them to an agency that can provide 100 percent confidentiality outside of Fort Riley," Shanteau added.

Many of the people the advocates reach out to have already made a report to the MPs, Shanteau said. In that case, the victim advocates still reach out to the person who reported the abuse

Need to call for help?

Fort Riley domestic violence and sexual assault response line (24 hours) – (785) 307-1373

Fort Riley Victim Advocate Program – (785) 239-9435

Chaplain – (785) 239-4357

Twin Army Community Hospital emergency room – (785) 239-7777

Military Police (785) 239-MPMP (6767)

Local Police (on and off post) – 911

For confidential, free services, including safe shelter, call The Crisis Center, Inc. (24 hours) – (800) 727-2785
Kansas Statewide Hotline – 1-888-END-ABUSE (363-2287)
National Domestic Violence Hotline – 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)

to give them the opportunity to accept or decline services.

"Victims have the choice because when people are in crisis they don't necessarily want to talk to a whole lot of people," Dukes said.

Victims decide if they want help

The program is voluntary and very victim driven, Shanteau added. "They get to make the choices about how they want us to support them."

Shanteau said when she meets with someone for the first time she likes to make sure they get as much information as possible and a detailed safety plan. "If for whatever reason they choose not to talk to me again or they relocate, I know that I gave them that information."

If the victim chooses to receive further help, the advocates can help in many ways. Depending on the situation, Shanteau said, advo-

"The larger majority is going to be that very young population under the age of 30, and their marriages are going to be very young with many deployments and usually more than one child," Dukes said. "They have multiple stressors and one of the things they haven't learned to do yet is to find out about this culture and so we educate them about military culture."

Some situations unique to the military can create added stress on families. Constant relocation of military families can cut victims off from their families and familiar support systems. Higher than average unemployment and underemployment rates for military spouses also leave them economically dependent on service members. Deployments are an added stress for military families.

Dukes: War doesn't create batterers

Dukes said the number of victims of domestic violence rises with the return of deployed Soldiers, however that is not because being deployed makes them batterers, she pointed out.

Many people have tried to find a correlation that people who have never battered become batterers as a result of deployment, and

there's no empirical data that supports that, Dukes said.

"When Soldiers are home, if they typically fought (with their spouse) before they left, they still fight when they get back," she said. "Numbers go down because they're not here, but when they're back the numbers go back up."

Abusive relationships are defined by power and control, Dukes said. "Those are really kind of personality and character traits and kind of inborn in a person," she said. "If you go to a certain environment, it doesn't make you that way. You probably are that way."

"It may be a contributing factor or it may be a circumstance that gives cause for it to come out," she added. "It hasn't been proven that it puts something in you that wasn't in you before you left."

"We are reliable, caring, trained and experienced to meet the needs for military families on Fort Riley and those living in the surrounding communities," Dukes said. She said she would want someone to know that if they ever need services from the victim advocates that they would be okay.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or anna.morelock@riley.army.mil.



Brigade sets up 'cell' for new Soldiers

By Amanda Kim Stairrett
Staff writer

Soldiers new to Fort Riley typically in-process through the 1st Replacement Company. Soldiers assigned to the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team go another route.

Brigade leaders set up an integration cell within the Brigade Special Troops Battalion to handle the large influx of Soldiers assigned to the new brigade organizing on post. Lt. Col. Joseph Birchmeier, BSTB commander, said the large numbers of Soldiers arriving over a short period of time would tax the capabilities of the post's replacement company to command, control and house 4th IBCT Soldiers.

Upon arrival at Fort Riley, the brigade's Soldiers check in with 1st Replacement Co. and then fall under control of the BSTB for in-processing.

As of Feb. 21, 531 Soldiers have been processed through the integration cell.

Brigade leaders saw the creation of an integration cell as an opportunity to quickly integrate Soldiers into the 4th IBCT. During their quick integration, Sol-

diers do physical training with BSTB Soldiers each morning.

In-processing takes two weeks and is divided into two phases. During Phase I, Soldiers go through the standard procedures of finance in-processing, updating personnel records, visiting the housing office, Soldier Readiness Processing, a diagnostic Army Physical Fitness Test, tactical equipment issue and Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training.

Phase II consists of preparing for weapons ranges, weapons cleaning, checking the Soldier's field uniforms, training in the Public Works Environmental Management System and preventive medicine briefings.

The new Soldiers also get basic and advanced weapons training on ranges run by the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, and 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, and vehicle battle drills and detainee operations conducted by 2nd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment.

Soldiers assigned to other brigades in the Army typically begin the Phase II tasks once they are assigned to their companies. But, 4th IBCT leaders want their



Soldiers to be trained in these tasks before they join their battalions, Birchmeier said.

Phase II also is being conducted at the initial stages because the brigade has limited resources and personnel, he said. Training is consolidated to ensure Soldiers get what Birchmeier called "critical training." Once Phase II training is completed, the integration

cell releases Soldiers to their assigned battalions.

The integration cell of 27 non-commissioned officers from across the 4th IBCT falls under the supervision of Capt. Michael Loftus, commander, and 1st Sgt. James Graves of the BSTB's Headquarters and Headquarters Company. The integration cell is controlled from BSTB headquar-

New 4th IBCT Soldiers line up Feb. 13 in the BSTB's integration cell headquarters to receive their barracks assignments from Sgt. 1st Class Don Sweet (left). The Soldiers got their room assignments, key cards and information on the ins and outs of the barracks. These Soldiers were part of a group of more than 100 who arrived at Fort Riley Feb. 11 and 12.

Post/Stairrett

ters in Building 7836.

Each battalion in the 4th IBCT has an authorized number of Soldiers assigned. U.S. Army Human Resources Command determines what that authorized personnel strength will be, said Chief Warrant Officer Mark Trepanier of the 4th IBCT S1 office. HRC also determines how many Soldiers will be assigned to the 4th IBCT

each month, he said.

Trepanier, who was involved with 4th IBCT planning on the division side before moving to the S1 office, said HRC's numbers are updated each month.

Trepanier said the biggest challenge in the initial stages was getting the right people in to fill needed personnel, supply and maintenance positions and getting them here on time. Leaders wanted those positions filled by September 2005, but that fell behind what was originally scheduled. Those decisions are made by III Corps officials who decide who gets what.

The rapid influx of new Soldiers has created a sponsorship problem for the 4th IBCT. Other units at Fort Riley were asked to step in and help with the arrival of brigade Soldiers. Units not deployed or preparing to deploy have helped by providing individual sponsors for the new Soldiers. Units usually sponsor their own new arrivals, but there are too few Soldiers assigned to the 4th IBCT to handle all the incoming Soldiers.

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Court-martial finds Soldiers guilty

Staff report

The government tried the following cases at Fort Riley and received the following results:

On Feb. 7, Pfc. Nahshon D. Zellous was tried at a general court-martial and found guilty of being absent without leave, failing to go to appointed place of duty, breaking restriction, drunken operation of a vehicle and willfully disobeying a superior commissioned officer.

The military judge sentenced

him to be reduced to private, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for 10 months and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Jan. 5, Pvt. Matthew J. Berry was tried at a general court-martial and found guilty of desertion terminated by apprehension, two specifications of larceny of military property, including six SINCGARS radios, and two specifications of housebreaking.

The military judge sentenced him to forfeit all pay and

allowances, to be confined for 27 months and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Nov. 30, Pfc. Amy L. Douglas was tried at a general court-martial and found guilty of being absent without leave terminated by apprehension and wrongful use of marijuana.

The military judge sentenced her to be reduced to private, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for one year, and to be discharged from the service with a

Bad Conduct Discharge.

On Nov. 29, Pvt. Kamarone Gibson was tried at a special court-martial empowered to adjudge a Bad Conduct Discharge and was found guilty of three specifications of failing to go to the appointed place of duty and wrongful possession of marijuana.

The military judge sentenced him to forfeit \$822 pay per month for three months, to be confined for three months, and to be discharged from the service with a Bad Conduct Discharge.

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Military News

Friday, February 24, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

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Military news briefly

Army tests robot Stryker convoys

FORT GORDON, Ga. — Engineers conducting show-and-tell with a 20-ton robot on the last day of two weeks of trials on Fort Gordon were cautiously optimistic.

The demonstration at Fort Gordon was a part of a much larger program of tests being conducted by the Robotics Technology Integration Team from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research and Development Engineer Center, General Dynamics Corporation and its sub-contractors.

Read more about this story in next week's Fort Riley Post.

Engineers rebuilding infrastructure

BAGHDAD — Responsible for the rebuilding of Baghdad's infrastructure — restoration and improvement of electricity, water, sewer and transportation systems, members of the 4th Brigade Combat Team Infrastructure Coordination Element — known as ICE — have their work cut out for them.

The coordination cell works with local leaders within the communities and neighborhoods to identify and service their particular needs — working to coordinate the repair of Iraqi essential services within the brigade's prescribed area of operations.

"Each of the different areas has its unique challenges," said Maj. Ray Proske, 4th Special Troops Battalion executive officer.

The problem is also complicated by numerous unauthorized taps on the city's water and electrical systems, further draining an already depleted infrastructure, Proske said.

Read more of this story at www4.army.mil/ocpa/read.php?story_id_key=8595 on the Web.

Cav troopers take 'Spur Ride' in Germany

SCHWEINFURT, Germany — Among the many accoutrements that separate one type of military unit from another, arguably the most noticeable are a pair of spurs and a black Stetson worn by the Army's cavalry. Soldiers in cavalry squadrons cannot wear the traditional accessories, however, until they demonstrate their skills.

Thirty-six Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, joined by five German soldiers, tested themselves physically, mentally and emotionally for 24 hours during the unit's Spur Ride at Camp Robertson to earn the right to wear the coveted spurs and truly be considered part of the cavalry.

"I wanted to do this," said 1st Lt. Brendan Meara, an anti-tank platoon leader with A Troop, 1-4 Cav. "I'm lucky enough to be serving in a cavalry unit, go that extra step and become a spur holder. You're not a real cavalryman until you earn your spurs."

Read more about this accomplishment at www4.army.mil/ocpa/read.php?story_id_key=8581 on the Web.

Soldier sets Guinness record

By Tanya Polk
Army News Service

HANAU, Germany — Screams and shouts echoed through the street as Hanau-based Soldiers cheered on their new world champion, Spc. Jake Truex, who broke the Guinness World Record for the fastest 5,000-meter run at the Fliegerhorst Kaserne Feb. 14.

Truex serves as an all-vehicle repairer with 127th Aviation Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division. With a 40-pound rucksack strapped to his back, he attempted to break two world records — the fastest mile and the fastest 5,000 meters.

Truex has been preparing for his place in history since November. He described his intense workout routine: "I normally get

up at 5 a.m. and go for my morning run, which is usually four to six miles. At lunch, I work on core exercises such as sit-ups and pushups. After work, I go for another run with the ruck on. I do this three days a week," he said.

The physically fit 178-pound Soldier assured viewers that his rucksack truly weighed 40 pounds as he stepped onto the scale before the run.

"I filled my ruck with a seven-pound sleeping bag, 20-pound bag of rice and the rest is all plate weights," Truex said.

At 218 pounds, Truex took a stab at the world record.

Nine seconds short at first

Although falling just nine seconds shy of the mile record of 5

minutes 35 seconds, the "Workhorse" Soldier raced past the current 5,000-meter record of 25:15 in only 22:20.

"(The mile attempt) was a devastating blow," Truex said, "but I knew that all these people came out here to see me do this, so I wasn't going to miss the next one. I thought to myself, my leg's going to have to fall off before I

See Record, Page 12

Africa training



U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, puts his faith in a group of South African and U.S. soldiers in a trust-building exercise during a demonstration of South African army training Feb. 13 at "Army Gymnasium," a mid-level South African army training base.

Top enlisted advisor shown 'ropes'

By Kathleen T. Rhem
AFPS

HEIDELBURG, South Africa — The U.S. military's top noncommissioned officer got an introduction to "adventure-based training" — South Africa style — during a visit to Heidelberg, South Africa Feb. 13.

U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, visited South African military services that week. During a visit to "Army Gymnasium," a mid-level South African army training base, Gainey experienced ROPES — Reality-Oriented Practical Experience Systems — training.

"It's all about taking you out of your comfort zone," South African army Warrant Officer Rudi Victor said, explaining that ROPES training builds confidence, teamwork and communication skills. South African warrant officers are equivalent to sergeants major in the U.S. Army.

Soldiers learn to trust comrades

Participants take part in a series of exercises designed to make them work together and clearly communicate their intent. In one exercise, a team of soldiers passes an individual over their heads — completely turning the individual end-over-end vertically in the process. In another, one team member closes his eyes and drops into the arms of another team member.

Gainey participated in most exercises

See Gainey, Page 10

DoD updates payback policy

Change adds equipment, extends time

AFPS

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department announced Feb. 14 the revision of a memorandum on the policy and procedures for the reimbursement of privately purchased protective equipment for Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The new memo, which was signed Feb. 10 by David S.C. Chiu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, incorporates the original guidance published on Oct. 4, 2005, expands the list of reimbursable equipment and extends the eligible purchase period for reimbursement.

The full reimbursable equipment list includes:

- Complete ballistic vests;
- Most component parts of ballistic vests, including side-plate body armor;
- Helmets;
- Ballistic eye protection;
- Hydration systems;
- Gloves;
- Knee pads;
- Elbow pads;
- Bed insect netting;
- Insect repellent; and
- Reflective vests.

The eligible purchase period is now Sept. 11, 2001, through April 1, 2006, as required by the fiscal

See Payback, Page 13

Officials: U.S. Army changing to win war

By Steven Donald Smith
AFPS

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Army needs the support of Congress to win the long war against terrorism and to meet other 21st century threats, Army officials said during testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee Feb. 14.

"In order to sustain the current missions and continue to posture for future commitments, the Army needs the full support of the Congress," Francis J. Harvey, secretary of the Army, said.

The Army secretary said the 2006 Army posture statement — the Army's plan to address current and future challenges — "provides

See Congress, Page 12



Gainey continued from page 9

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Unheated water can be poured into the pouch holding the entree, which can slow hydration, and consequently, the acceptability of

See Meals, Page 13



Post/Gary Skidmore

Brig. Gen. Dana Pittard, 24th Inf. Div.n (Mech), assistant division commander for maneuver, addresses Kansas House members during Armed Forces Day activities in the Kansas State Capitol.

Kansans honor U.S. servicemembers

By Deb Skidmore
Media Relations Officer

The residents of Kansas rolled out the red carpet Feb. 17 to honor the nation's military personnel.

In a special ceremony at the state capitol in Topeka, Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius signed a document proclaiming the day as Armed Forces Appreciation Day. She signed the proclamation in front of leaders from all the military installations in Kansas. Members of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard from Fort Riley also were present.

Maj. Gen. Todd Bunting, Kansas adjutant general, told state officials, "We (Soldiers) do what we do because of you. I thank you for your support."

The CGMCG started the day's observance riding the capitol grounds and greeting Kansas House and Senate members before they began their sessions. In turn, the governor greeted the

unit at mid-morning on the south side of the capitol, posing with the prairie post's Soldiers for photos.

"It was great to meet the governor and have the opportunity to have a photo opportunity with her," said Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Stonehouse, commander of the CGMCG.

Stonehouse introduced two of the unit's Soldiers who are native Kansans (Sgt. Shawn Day and Pfc. Steven Bryant) to Sebelius before the photo session. Stonehouse is also a resident of the Sunflower State.

Displays from Kansas's military installations, the Corps of Engineers and ROTC were set up in the capitol rotunda the entire day with personnel handing out information and freebies explaining how their post or agency has an economic impact on the state.

Before the House session began, Chap. (Capt.) Craig Ludwig offered a prayer to the House members.

"It was an honor to be chosen to do this," said the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, chaplain who recently returned from Iraq. "It's not every day you get a chance to pray for those over the state," he said. "And it's nice the governor is remembering the servicemembers," he added.

Calling himself a Kansas "wannabe," Brig. Gen. Dana Pittard, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) assistant division commander for maneuver, addressed the House members after Ludwig. Pittard explained that he was a "wannabe" because he was married to a Kansan and was assigned to Fort Riley in the great state of Kansas.

Pittard said, "Ironically, one year ago today I was addressing a provisional legislature in Iraq. I was telling them thank you and good-bye."

"You can be proud of the Kansas military—both active and national guard," he said. "They

are making a difference around the world, and they are in the forefront on the war on terrorism."

Pittard also told the Kansas House leaders that Fort Riley's population is almost doubling over the next few years because of the Base Realignment and Closure decision.

"We have so many community partners helping us with our growth at Fort Riley," he said, referring to the housing, schools and day care issues being handled to support the Fort Riley population increase.

As Pittard expressed his gratitude to the residents of Kansas for their continued support to the military, he was given a standing ovation from House members.

He concluded by telling them, "God Bless you and the state of Kansas."

Deb Skidmore can be contacted at deb.skidmore@riley.army.mil or 239-3014.

Army selects Fort Bliss for test site

By Sara Wood
AFPS

WASHINGTON — To further the development of the Future Combat Systems program, the Army is designating a combat unit to evaluate and test cutting-edge technology.

The Evaluation Brigade Combat Team, which will begin forming in March 2007, will be stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas. Fort Bliss was chosen to host the EBCT because of its immense training areas and proximity to White Sands Missile Range and Biggs Army Airfield, said Army Lt. Col. Carl Ey, an Army spokesman.

"The Evaluation Brigade Combat Team is an essential part of getting the Future Combat Systems in place and modernizing the Army," Ey said. "By selecting a location, it shows that the Army's making a very concerted effort to move forward in order to meet the challenges of the 21st century."

Three brigade combat teams are scheduled to move to Fort Bliss from Europe as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process, Ey said. One team will be designated as the EBCT.

The EBCT will start with about 819 Soldiers and eventually grow to full BCT size of 3,500, Ey said. These Soldiers will evaluate in a real-time environment the technologies in the Future Combat Systems program.

The program, the Army's modernization effort, consists of a

family of 18 manned and unmanned systems connected by a common network. Through this network, Soldiers and leaders will be linked to leading-edge technologies and capabilities that are critical to risk reduction in combat, according to an Army news release. The technologies will allow Soldiers to maneuver quickly and conduct a variety of missions in complex environments, the release stated.

The first round of equipment will be delivered to the EBCT in 2008, Ey said. As more Future Combat Systems technologies become available, they will be delivered to the EBCT for evaluation and testing. There will be four such deliveries in total, implemented in two-year cycles.

The EBCT will continue testing Future Combat Systems equipment and technologies until 2016, Ey said. The Army plans to transition the EBCT into the first brigade combat team fully equipped with Future Combat Systems equipment, he said.

As the EBCT tests equipment, the unit's Soldiers will provide feedback on the equipment's performance. Through this feedback, the Army will be able to determine what, if any, adjustments or improvements are needed to continuously develop the equipment.

After the equipment is tested by the EBCT, it will be fielded to the operational Army. The first unit is expected to receive EBCT technology in 2014, the release stated.

JON MURDOCK AUTO MALL
3 x 10"
Black Only
3x10 Murdock

GEICO- AFC
3 x 10"
Black Only
656946 Called up



More Iraqi women-owned businesses get contracts

By Stan Heath

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — About 250 reconstruction contracts worth more than \$250 million have been awarded to women-owned businesses in Iraq over the past eight months.

Opportunities for Iraqi businesswomen are increasing, with help of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, according to a civil engineer who just returned from Iraq two months ago.

Karen Durham-Aguilera, a member of the senior executive

service and former director of programs for the Project and Contracting Office, spoke about current U.S. efforts to empower Iraqi engineers and businesswomen at a U.S. Institute of Peace and State Department-sponsored seminar in Washington, D.C., the end of January.

The efforts to add women-owned businesses to the reconstruction equation were deliberate, Durham-Aguilera said. As of June 2005, only one contract had been awarded to a woman-owned firm.

To increase that number, Durham-Aguilera and a small

team of contracting personnel conducted several network sessions with Iraqi women-owned firms to connect them with general contractors and to teach and coach them how to put together successful bids to win awards for construction contracts. Goals and incentives also were established for general contractors to hire women-owned Iraqi firms as subcontractors.

Iraq-American Azza Humadi, PCO women's coordinator, also spoke at the event. In order to reach out to Iraqi businesswomen, Humadi frequently travels outside the safety of the international

zone to assist Iraqi women in their efforts to bid on and win contracts. Armed with information she collected on more than 400 Iraqi women-owned companies, Humadi literally goes "door to door" marketing these firms to the international design-build contractors on the ground.

"Karen and Azza have done groundbreaking work in Iraq with women-owned businesses," said Merriam Mashatt, former director of Capacity Development for PCO.

In the past year, the United States has channeled a significant portion of its reconstruction dol-

lars to Iraqi businesswomen and for capacity development, which is vital to self-sustainment of the Iraqi people, Mashatt said. She also was a presenter at the forum.

Durham-Aguilera was detailed for seven months from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Northwest Division headquartered in Portland, Ore. She oversaw about \$12 billion in reconstruction, a portion of the overall \$18.4 billion Iraq Reconstruction Relief Fund.

"One of the best parts of my time in Iraq was to work together with our many Iraqi professionals, a group of over 300 people," the

registered engineer told the group. "Many of these professionals are women: engineers, architects, accountants, project managers and more."

The Iraqi ministries, the U.S. State Department, the Multi-National Forces-Iraq, the U.S. Agency for International Development, PCO, the Corps of Engineers and Coalition and Iraqi contractors that build the construction projects work in unison to rebuild," Durham-Aguilera said. "The reconstruction effort is a huge partnership."

See Iraqis, Page 13



ANS/Polk

Cheered on by his fellow Soldiers, Spec. Jake Truex, 127th Aviation Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division, breaks the Guinness Book world record for the 5-kilometer ruck-run in Hanau, Germany, Feb. 14.

Record

continued from page 9

lose."

The people who witnessed Truex's record-breaking run included strong support from his chain of command.

"When we originally received Spec. Truex in our unit, we noticed he was well above the normal Army standards as far as running and physical fitness," said 1st Sgt. Michelle Thomas, Headquarters Support Command first sergeant. "Rain, sleet and snow, he runs constantly. So, we're glad to support him in any physical activity that he is a part of."

The support Truex received extended globally. His best friend

in Oregon stayed up to hear his results. Truex was also in contact with his mother after gaining his record-holding title.

"My inspiration is to make a better life for my mom, my dad, my brother and my sister," Truex said. "They've worked hard their whole lives and they deserve much better."

Truex plans to break more records

As Truex is ending his time in the Army, he has plans on breaking more records in his home-

town, Albany, Ore.

"I would love to be the world champion for the Xterra Triathlon," Truex said. "I'm going home to train full-time as a triathlete."

"I know one day in my lifetime I will be sitting on the couch and the Olympics are going to come up, and I'm going to see Truex run across the finish line," Thomas said. "And I get the proud honor of saying, 'that's my Soldier.'"

Pfc. Tanya C. Polk serves with the 1st Armored Division Public Affairs Office.

Congress

continued from page 9

a roadmap to first build a more capable and relevant Army for the 21st century through transformation and modernization, and second, sustain the full range of the Army's current commitments, particularly fighting and winning the global war on terrorism.

"The Army's plan is a total plan to transform the entire Army — active, Guard and Reserve," he added.

Harvey said it is important for the Army to shift its "center of gravity" to give it broader operational capabilities to meet the complex challenges, such as "irregular asymmetric warfare."

Army lacked 'breadth' on Sept. 11, 2001

On Sept. 11, 2001, the Army's operational capabilities lacked the "breadth and depth" to win the long war, but the service has spent the past few years remedying this issue by converting an operational Army to a modular, brigade-based combat force, with the objective of increasing combat-ready units, Harvey said. The units are called brigade combat teams.

"To date we have completed the conversion or activation of 19 BCTs to the modular design, or approximately 27 percent toward the objective of 70 BCTs," he

said.

Even though the modular-force effort is not complete, it has already increased operational capabilities, and "established the foundation for a rotational force-generation model that is structured, predictable and provides more combat-ready units while reducing stress on the force," he said.

The plan shifts the focus of the Army Reserve from a strategic to an operational force, Harvey said, and National Guard brigades are beginning to be transformed to the same modular design as the active Army.

"In essence, the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve are transforming and modernizing from an under-resourced stand-by force to fully equipped, manned and trained operational ready units," the Army secretary said. Harvey also said full funding is needed for the Future Combat Systems program.

"This is really the first major modernization effort in over four decades," he said. "Simply put, the FCS program is the fastest and surest way to modernize the Army."

In addition, Harvey made the point that to preserve an all-volunteer force, funding is essential to maintain the quality of life for

those who serve.

"This is the first time in our modern history that the nation has tested the concept of an all-volunteer force in a prolonged war. Full funding and support of Army programs in this way is critical to sustain the finest Army in the world," he said.

Plans call for 40,000 more Soldiers

When asked if either the secretary or general, under the president's budget, would seek a permanent increase in end-strength for the active duty Army, Harvey said the plan calls for an increase of 40,000 Soldiers for the operational Army.

Harvey explained that the Army essentially is divided into three parts: the operational Army, the Army that fights the war; the institutional Army, which generates the force; and the "overhead account," which is made up of "trainees, transients, holdovers and students," he said.

"I remain confident that with the continued strong support of Congress, America's Army can accomplish its mission and meet our strategic goal of being relevant and ready both today and tomorrow," Harvey said.

MILITARY OUTLET
3 x 3"
Black Only
3x7 Military Outlet

LANDMARK NATIONAL BANK
3 x 7"
Black Only
3x7 Landmark Great CD

SATURDAY OF TOPEKA
3 x 7"
Black Only
3x7 SaturdayTopeka

4X4 LAND, INC.
3 x 2"
Black Only
3x2 4x4Land Feb TP



Payback

continued from page 9

2006 National Defense Authorization Act. The previous memo only covered purchases from Sept. 11, 2001, to July 31, 2004.

To be reimbursed for equipment, servicemembers must complete DD Form 2902, "Claim for Reimbursement for Privately Purchased Protective, Safety or Health Equipment used in Combat."

This form must be submitted to the servicemember's chain of command or, for former members, to an authorizing official designated by their former service at an address on the form. All claims must be submitted by Oct. 3, 2006.

The original memo states that the military will reimburse servicemembers for the cost, including shipping, of any protective, safety or health equipment that was purchased by the member or by another person on behalf of the member for the member's personal use during deployment.

To be eligible for reimbursement, the equipment must be on the approved list of shortage equipment, and the member must not have been issued equivalent government-provided equipment before they engaged in imminent danger or hostile fire operations, the original memo states.

Reimbursement for any one item is limited to \$1,100, and any equipment that servicemembers are reimbursed for becomes the property of the U.S. government and must be turned in to the unit logistics officer.

Meals

continued from page 10

new entrees of freeze-dried chicken teriyaki, Mexican rice and chicken, seafood chowder and chili macaroni with beef.

Trail mix and peanut butter and banana walnut dessert bars were taken from the developmental First Strike Ration. Chocolate peanut butter, pizza cheese spread, smoked almonds, dried-fruit cranberries, brown sugar toaster pastry and granola were adopted from the MRE. Corn nuts, Walnettos, granola cereal with blueberries, cran-raspberry HooAH! bars and a freeze-dried ice cream sandwich are commercial items new to any individual ration.

A strawberry dairy shake and fruit, lemon-lime and orange-flavored sports drinks are the remaining changes. All drink mixes in the MCW/LRP will be packed in the new zippered drink pouch for easier consumption.

At the focus group, Loveridge introduced candy-coated chocolate-covered coffee beans, honey gel pouches and energy fruit chews to gauge their level of interest. She said the coffee beans went fast and likely will be offered in the next evaluation.

As for the overall evaluation, Loveridge said the egg entrees and granola cereal were especially popular. Pending results from the evaluation and decisions from the Joint Operational Rations Forum, an updated list of menus is expected by next year.

For more information about the Soldier Systems Center, visit <http://www.natick.army.mil> on the Web.

Iraqis

continued from page 12

Some of Durham-Aguilera's efforts were to increase the number of contracts going directly to Iraqi firms. While in Iraq, she visited construction projects in Baghdad, Kirkuk, Erbil, Basra, Nassiriyah and other locations.

"I saw first hand the quality work that Iraqi firms can build, from the very small \$100,000 or less to the larger several-million-dollar projects," she said. "Included in those firms are several women-owned businesses, as they are also winning construction contracts."

As of Jan. 30, nearly 6,000 actual projects are under way with a program value of \$2.5 billion. Currently, 2,200 projects are ongoing with a program value of \$3.2 billion.

About 3,700 projects have been completed with a program value of about \$2.5 billion.

COTTONWOOD THEATERS
1 x 3"
Black Only
1x3 Cottonwood Feb

JIM FERNEY AGENCY, INC.
1 x 3"
Black Only
1x3 JimFerneey Looking

THE EYE DOCTOR
3 x 10"
Black Only
3X10 EYE DOCTOR

CHANGING TIMES BOUTIQUE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 CTB Feb TF

FIRST SOUTHERN BAPTIST
2 x 2"
Black Only
2X2 1st South Baptist

COLLEGE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
2 x 2"
Black Only
2X2 Coll Hghts Bapt/Feb TF

SHEAR EFFECTS
2 x 2.5"
Black Only
2x2.5 Shear Effects

USADISCOUNTERS
3 x 10.5"
Black Only
BLJR/PU 2/10/06

CANDLEWOOD HEALTH MART PHARMAC
2 x 2"
Black Only
2X2 Candlewood Health/Feb TF

MANHATTAN SHOE REPAIR
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 Man Shoe Feb TF

SCREEN MACHINE
2 x 2"
Black Only
2X2 Screen Mach/Feb TF

CERTIFIED MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS I
2 x 2"
Black Only
2x2 CMS Denise Sage





BRIGGS AUTO GROUP, INC
6 x 21.25"
Black Only
6x21.5 Full Color Briggs





Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, February 24, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Page 15

Community news briefly

Soccer begins registration

Registration begins March 13 and runs through April 7 for the Start Smart soccer instructional program for children ages 3-5 and their parents.

Registration is being done at Central Registration, Building 6620, call 239-4847.

Registration costs \$20 per child plus the yearly CYS registration fee of \$18.

The program will be conducted from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. Mondays April 10 through May 15 at the Colyer youth sports fields.

Scholarships offered

Education financial assistance is available through the Fort Riley Combined Scholarship Campaign. Applications can be obtained online at www.riley.army.mil by clicking on the current news link, scrolling down to Briefs and clicking on CFC Scholarship Application.

Copies also are available from guidance counselors at local high schools, the Soldier and Family Support Center, Fort Riley Thrift Shop, The Shoppe in the U.S. Cavalry Museum and the Education Center.

April 15 is the deadline for submitting scholarship applications. Scholarship will be awarded in May for the fall semester of 2006.

For more information, call Wendy DeMas at 784-2838.

ITR offers discounts

The Information, Ticketing and Reservation office on post offers destination packaging, cruises, leisure commercial travel, discount attraction tickets and tours.

Discount movie tickets for Seth Childs 12 Theatre in Manhattan also are available. Passes are \$6 and may be used for all movie showings. Tickets are not movie specific and have an expiration date of a year.

For more information, call 239-5614.

Association helps spouses

The National Military Family Association is accepting applications for its Joanne Holbrook Patton Military Spouse Scholarships. Any uniformed service spouse – active duty, retired, National Guard, Reserve or survivor – studying toward professional certification or attending post-secondary or graduate school can apply.

Scholarships, normally in the amount of \$1,000, may be used for tuition, fees, books and school room and board. The number of scholarships awarded each year varies.

Applications can be found at <http://www.nmfa.org/scholarships2006>.

Applications will only be accepted online and must be submitted by midnight April 15.

Stay In Step with Fort Riley

See what's happening on Fort Riley cable Channel 2 every day at 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Scouters honor Fort Riley family



Photo courtesy Scott Newhart

Staff Sgt. Scott Newhart shares discoveries at the Konza Prairie preserve with the Scouts in his Bear den.

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

The Quivira District recently honored a Fort Riley family as its 2005 Scout Family of the Year. The district presents the award annually to one couple that has been actively involved in Scouting throughout the year. Staff Sgt. Scott Newhart, retention noncommissioned officer for the 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion and formerly of the 82nd Medical Company (Air Ambulance), and his wife, Kristina, have been supporting Scouting on post for the past four years.

Newhart serves as Scoutmaster for Pack 660 on Fort Riley. The American Legion

post in Junction City sponsors all the Boy Scouts on post.

Newhart also serves as leader for the Bears den in his pack and helps with the WEBELOS (We'll Be Loyal Scouts) den.

Even though she is a full-time student at Kansas State University, Kristina finds time to serve as a district committee member and the Bear den's assistant leader. She also helps with the WEBELOS den and has been a registered Scout leader for the past two years.

Newhart's involvement as an adult Scout began when his son, Jacob, joined as a Tiger Scout. Tiger Scouts have to have an adult partner

See Scouters, Page 16



Kristina Newhart watches some Cub Scouts try their luck with soda can fishing poles.

Surprise!



Post/Stairrett

Staff Sgt. Nicole Powell, division equal opportunity advisor, is surprised with a Sing-A-Gram delivered by costumed representatives of Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers before the start of a meeting at Riley's Conference Center. Powell's husband ordered the Sing-A-Gram and it was delivered in front of a room of Soldiers.

'Cupid' wears costume, delivers 'grams

By Amanda Kim Stairrett
Staff writer

A bunny, Kermit the Frog, Elvis and a lion, all wearing desert combat boots, traveled around Fort Riley, Junction City and Manhattan Feb. 13 delivering Sing-A-Grams.

The four were joined by a panther, gorilla and the Cowardly Lion of Wizard of Oz fame during the Better Opportunities for

Single Soldiers-sponsored event.

For \$25, the performers sang and presented someone's special Valentine with a balloon and candy.

Spc. Dwayne Allen, BOSS president who dressed as a panther for the annual fundraiser, said the group delivered 10 Sing-A-Grams Feb. 10 and 25 Feb. 13. Fifty more were scheduled for delivery on Valentine's Day.

Pvt. Cole Sammons of 2nd Battalion,

16th Infantry Regiment, received one of the Sing-A-Grams Feb. 13. Sammons' mother requested that the BOSS group serenade her son with "You Are My Sunshine."

The costumed BOSS reps delivered the Valentine's Day wish to Sammons while 50 to 60 of his fellow Soldiers looked on.

Spc. Dana Dean, the BOSS rep for Com-

See Sing-A-Grams, Page 17

Enlisted advisor lauds wives

Gainey visits troops, families in South Africa

By Kathleen T. Rhem
AFPS

PRETORIA, South Africa — The top enlisted servicemember in the U.S. Defense Department took time this weekend to visit American troops stationed at the U.S. embassy in Pretoria, South Africa.

"It means a lot to me that you invited me here to spend time with you," Army Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Feb. 11 to enlisted Soldiers and Marines assigned to the U.S. Embassy.

Gainey was midway through an official visit to South Africa. He spent the first week attending an international senior noncommissioned officers conference at the South African National Defense Force's School of Armor in Bloemfontein. Most of the second week was spent on familiarization visits to South Africa's military services.

He visited enlisted members, including the embassy's Marine security guards, during lunch at the Marines' residence Feb. 11, and ate dinner Feb. 12 at the home of the defense attaché with U.S. officers assigned to Pretoria.

Speaking Feb. 11 at the "Marine house," Gainey related the small group of servicemem-

See Gainey, Page 17

'Rosa Parks' speaks at observance Presenter reveals life of U.S. 'Mother of Civil Rights'

By Anna Morelock
Staff writer

Rosa Parks, portrayed by Melissa Waddy Thibodeaux, visited Fort Riley Feb. 14 in honor of African American/Black History Month.

Thibodeaux performed "Meet Mrs. Rosa Parks," during which she shared Parks' experiences as "The Mother of Civil Rights."

With a black hat pulled firmly over her gray curls and her arms

wrapped in a dark overcoat, Thibodeaux walked to the stage clutching her purse. Once there, she recounted parts of her life and her role in the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott of 1955.

Some people thought Parks wouldn't give up her seat on the bus to a white man because she was tired, Thibodeaux said. "The only tired I was, was tired of giving in," she recounted.

After her performance, Thibodeaux answered audience ques-

tions about Parks' life.

Thibodeaux is president and chief executive officer of Flying Geese Productions, a group that specializes in theatrical presentations about various historical characters. She also performs a play about Harriet Tubman and her experiences with the Underground Railroad.

Before Thibodeaux's performance, Fort Riley Equal Employment Opportunity Office Director L'Tanya Pugh led a tribute to the

late Coretta Scott King, wife of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scott King died Jan. 30 at age 78.

"She built a legacy that was founded on faith, and (she) educated and energized the world and mankind with just her presence," Pugh said.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or anna.morelock@riley.army.mil.



Melissa Waddy Thibodeaux presents "Meet Mrs. Rosa Parks" at the African American/Black History Month observance at Riley's Conference Center Feb. 14. Post/Morelock





Community news briefly

Quilt class planned

The Fort Riley Arts and Crafts Center has scheduled a quilting class for Feb. 25. Participants will learn to make a quilted table runner.

The class fee is \$20 plus cost of supplies.

Class will run from 9 a.m. until the project is completed – about five hours. Participants may leave early if they need to.

For more information, call 239-9205.

School Age Services listed

Feb. 24 – Junction City library, kindergarten

Feb. 25 – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., free childcare for families of deployed Soldiers and Soldiers who have returned to Fort Riley from deployment within the past three months

Feb. 27 – Arts and Crafts Center, Building 6918, 1st and 2nd grades

Feb. 28 – Riley Wheels Skate Rink, Building 202, kindergarten

March 1 – Bowling Center, Building 7485

March 2 – Mentoring at the Child Development Center, Building 6950

For more information, call 239-9220.

Youth guitar classes offered

Child and Youth Services' SKIES program offers guitar classes. Sessions of group guitar lessons will be offered from 7 to 8 p.m. and from 8 to 9 p.m.

The 7 p.m. class is for children 6 to 10 years old. The 8 p.m. class is for children 11 to 18 years old. Classes must have at least five and no more than 10 students signed up.

For more information, call Central Registration at 239-4847.

Teen Center lists activities

Feb. 24 – 8 to 10:30 p.m., middle school dance

Feb. 25 – 9 to 11:30 p.m., high school dance

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

Scouters

continued from page 15

with them at every meeting and activity, Newhart explained.

Families named Scout Family of the Year do not have to have children involved in Scouting, Newhart said. But, 8-year-old Jacob is now a Bear Cub Scout and the Newharts' two daughters belong to Girl Scout troops on post. Micah, 12, is a Cadet and 10-year-old Elissa is a Junior Girl Scout. Both girls have been in Scouting for four years. Jacob is in his third year.

As a child, Newhart spent two years in Cub Scouts and two more in Boy Scouts while living in upstate New York. He attained the rank of Second Class before he left the program.

He remembers his sister being in Scouts and his mother serving as an assistant leader. "She always supported me while I was in Boy Scouts," Newhart said.

When Jacob decided he wanted to become a Tiger Scout, Newhart decided to support his son and has been back in Scouting ever since. "I knew it was something I could support," he said.

Scouting at Fort Riley isn't like Scouting for non-military families, Newhart said. "Every year is almost like a rebuilding year. Many families leave during the

summer," he explained.

"Off-post packs have the strength of having the same kids and same leaders, so they don't have to recruit new kids and leaders," Newhart said. "This year, we've lost three (Scouts) but gained four. We will lose two more in the next couple of months."

Still, Newhart sees a lot of value in the on-post Scouting programs. "Anything you can do with kids is a positive experience. Leaders get a lot of good training and good experience. Scouting helps leaders as much it does kids," he said.

Scouting is a grass roots program, Newhart went on. "Very few positions are paid in Scouting. Most are volunteers, and it does take time out of your schedule. You've got to think of it as time well spent with the boys."

Newhart sees a lot of value for the boys involved in Scouting. It helps give the kids a hand up in social situations, he said, and "in a time of so many deployments, it gives kids time to spend with other boys and other adults."

Mike Heronemus can be contacted at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or 239-8854.



Ware Elementary School photo/Gunderson

School, students get signed books

Ware Elementary School third-grade students look over their copies of autographed books presented to them Feb. 20. Sharon and Gary Cavey donated the signed copies of "When Washington Crossed the Delaware," written by Lynne Cheney, wife of the vice president. The Caveys have donated hundreds of American history books to school children as a way of getting them interested in and excited about their country's past.

GEARY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
3 x 15"
Black Only
3x15 Service Directory

BROOKS YAMAHA
2 x 5"
Black Only
2x5 Brooks Motorcycle

LITTLE APPLE
3 x 8"
Black Only
RED





Gainey continued from page 15



AFPS/Rhem
Army Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, jokes with children of U.S. military members assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria, South Africa, Feb. 11. Gainey had given the children each a "challenge coin" and jokingly made them raise their right hands and swear not to sell it.

Sing-A-Grams continued from page 15

pany C, 101st Forward Support Battalion, dressed as a bunny for the occasion. She and her BOSS cohorts delivered the holiday wish and left Sammons to the mercy of his commander and peers.

Dean said Sammons had to do push ups and someone popped his balloon.

Pfc. Gordon Dame of Company A, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, said a special moment for him was serenading a master sergeant during a farewell celebration at Irwin Army Community Hospital. Dame, who dressed as Kermit, played the guitar and sang a song he wrote himself.

"That was pretty cool," he said. Pvt. Christopher Crotts, also of 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt., who wore

a lion costume and also played the guitar when Valentines were presented.

Most of the recipients were surprised and embarrassed when they received their Sing-A-Grams, but none got ambushed like Von Arney.

Arney's wife, Charlotte, saw one of her co-workers at the Troop School get serenaded and immediately decided she had to buy a Sing-A-Gram for her husband. She ran to the parking lot and asked him to come into the building, where he was bowled over by a gorilla, played by Spc. Jose Heros, and the Cowardly Lion, played by Spc. J. Milo, both of the 331st Signal Company.

"It's interesting," Dean said

about the annual fundraiser. "It's fun."

She said the funniest moments came as the group drove around in a Morale, Welfare and Recreation van en route to deliveries or walked down the street. People in passing cars did double takes when they saw Soldiers wearing the bottom halves of their costumes or saw Elvis, played by Pvt. Alan Noc of Co. A, 1st Bn., 28th Inf. Regt., walking by a motor pool.

All of the Soldiers who delivered Sing-A-Grams volunteered and said they had fun.

Amanda Kim Stairrett can be contacted at amanda.kim.stairrett@us.army.mil or 239-3977.

bers and family members with jokes and advice on marriage and family.

He also shared a personal mantra: "Pride is contagious." The motto is engraved on the challenge coins Gainey hands out wherever he goes, and it's an idea he expounds on at every opportunity.

"Be proud of what you're doing," he said Feb. 11. "As long as you're proud of who you are, it'll spread to others."

"(Pride) is something we can share with each other," he said in brief remarks after dinner Feb. 12. "And it's something you'll never be investigated for sharing with each other."

Another theme Gainey lives by and speaks of often is love of family. He speaks lovingly of his wife of 29 years, Cindy, and his two adult children: daughter Erin, who is married to a U.S. Soldier; and his son, Army Capt. Ryan Gainey.

The theme is never far from the sergeant major's mind, and he never misses an opportunity to share it. "The only reason he's successful is because he's got someone like you beside him," Gainey told a Soldier's wife he

met briefly at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport while on a layover en route to South Africa Feb. 3.

"Remember, your families are what makes it happen. Without your families, you're nobody," he told troops Feb. 11.

At both weekend visits, Gainey gave his official coins to several wives and children of troops assigned to the embassy. He got loads of laughs when he made each group raise their right hands and promise not to sell the coins on an online auction site.

"When we go 'play' – that's what we call it when we deploy – who's at home so we don't have to worry about our families?" he

asked wives of enlisted men. "It's you gals."

After visiting the troops Feb. 11, Gainey explained why he makes an effort to visit service-members wherever he goes. "It's important to let them know that no matter how much responsibility or rank you get, you can never, never forget where you came from or where you started," he said.

He called the informal meeting a highlight of his trip. "Coming out here to spend time with them did me more good than it did them," Gainey said. "I want them to know that I appreciate, sincerely appreciate, what they're doing."

DIAMOND & JEWELRY OUTLET
2 x 5"
Black Only
2x5 Diamond Jewelry Outlet



VALASSIS AFC
3 x 12"
Black Only
665548 How much are you paying

ALCO
3 x 11"
Black Only
3x11 Almost Open





Community news briefly

Support Center lists activities

Feb. 27 – 9 a.m. to noon, Spouses Activity Day for spouses of deployed and waiting spouses group, personalize journals for your deployed/unaccompanied spouse. To register, call 239-9435.

March 1 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Army Family Team Building classes: introduction to Family Readiness Groups, support your child's education and introduction to financial readiness.

For more information, call the Soldier and Family Support Center at 239-9435.

Post parents' council to meet

The Parent Advisory Council at Fort Riley meets the first Thursday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m. in the training room at Building 6620. The next meeting is March 2.

Meeting agendas include program updates and parent information. For more information about the council, call 239-9850.

Military YMCA offers programs

The Armed Services YMCA in Junction City offers a wide variety of programs, including a Parents' Day Out from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Thursday and a gym program for home-schooled children from 2:15 to 3:45 p.m. every Thursday.

Its newest program, Parents Workout, runs from 8:30 to 11

a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, so parents have time to go to the gym.

It also offers the following Army Family Team Building classes:

March 3 – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., expectations and impact of the mission, military acronyms and terms, the chain of command and introduction to military customs and courtesies.

Any military family members interested in any of these programs should visit the ASYM-CA at 111 E. 16th St. or call 238-2972.

Crafts Center lists activities

Feb. 26 – 1 to 2:30 p.m., scrap booking get-together.

Feb. 28 – 6 to 9 p.m., matting and framing.

Feb. 28 – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., wood class project.

March 1 – Noon to 1 p.m., Make it, Take it.

March 1 – 1 to 3 p.m., stained glass.

Open hours for using the Arts and Crafts Center's wood shop, ceramics studio, matting and framing studio, computer lab, photography lab and doing stained glass, sewing, quilting, basket weaving and leatherwork are:

Monday and Tuesday from 1 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call the Arts and Crafts Center at 239-9205.

Sister plans 'Battlefield Cross' walk

Staff report

Nothing may be more poignant than the sight of the Battlefield Cross – the boots, rifle and helmet arrangement intended to memorialize the fallen.

Begun in the battlefield so the comrades of fallen Soldiers could remember their brothers and sisters, the Battlefield Cross has come to signify the loss of those in Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Kristen Farnan knows that loss first hand. Her brother, Colby, was killed in Iraq in Feb. 25, 2005, while serving with the Battery B, 4th Battalion, 1st Field

Artillery, from Fort Riley.

Farnan said she was profoundly moved by the Battlefield Cross, and when she saw a bronze rendition of it on the Internet she felt every Soldier should be remembered with one.

"I want people to remember Colby and all the Soldiers who died there (in Iraq). I told Dad we had to get one of these for him."

"Then I thought about all the other Soldiers and wished I could get one for all of them. That's when I decided I had to come up with a way to make enough to buy the memorials for more than just Colby."

"Buying one for all the Soldiers who have died (more than

2,400) would be a big undertaking, so I decided to start with Missouri and Kansas."

The result of her idea is a "Walk to Remember" fundraiser.

"We have contacted the towns where the other fallen Soldiers of Missouri are from to let them know they can request funds to help them buy a memorial."

"We may have to do this for a few years to raise enough, but I want every Soldier from Missouri to have one, if his family and the town want one," Farnan said.

Posters with photos and information about each of Missouri's fallen will line the route of the 5K walk. Scheduled for 9 a.m. March 25, the walk will start at the West-

on, Mo., City Hall, go down the Bluff road to the back entrance of Weston Bend State Park and return to the start.

"Anyone can walk, and we hope lots of people will join us," Farnan said.

The entry fee is \$25. Checks should be made payable to American Legion Post 501 and be sent to Bank of Weston, 18255 North 45 Highway, Weston, Mo. 64098 Attn: Walk to Remember."

Entrants will receive a commemorative T-shirt. Entrants may register online by sending an e-mail to mlott@kc.rr.com or they may register at 8 a.m. just before the walk.

LITTLE APPLE TOYOTA/HONDA
4 x 7"
Black Only
4X7 LittleAppleToyota Toyota Ad

THE MARTIN AGENCY
4 x 10"
Black Only
601190246 FREE PIX AND FLIX

SETH CHILD CINEMAS
2 x 5.5"
Black Only
2x5.5 Seth Childs/Feb

THE COLUMBIAN THEATER
2 x 6.5"
Black Only
2x6.5 Columbian Driving Media





Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, February 24, 2006

America's Warfighting Center

Page 19

Sports news in brief

Rec staff plans land nav class

The Outdoor Recreation Center staff at Fort Riley has scheduled an orienteering class from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 24. Students will use the land navigation course in Training Area 26 off Estes Road.

Land navigation will be accomplished using Global Positioning Systems, not compasses.

Participants must register at the Outdoor Recreation Center, 239-2363, by March 23. Cost is \$5 per person.

Hunter course scheduled

A certified hunter's education course is scheduled at the Fort Riley Outdoor Recreation Center from 6 to 9 p.m. March 1 and 2 and from 8 a.m. to noon March 4. Participants must attend all three sessions to be certified.

For more information, call the Outdoor Recreation Center at 239-2363.

Junior Olympic contest set

Local youth between 8 and 13 years of age have the opportunity to participate in the basketball portion of the U.S. Junior Olympic Skills Competition March 3 at the Fort Riley Teen Center.

Participants may register the day of the event. A copy of the youth's birth certificate is required the day of the competition for age verification.

Champions from this local qualifying event will advance to one of the regional competitions across the country in hopes of advancing to the National Finals.

This free grassroots youth participation program allows boys and girls, competing separately, the opportunity to showcase their athletic abilities in four athletic events — basketball, soccer, tennis and track and field. The program is designed to encourage youth participation in sport while promoting sportsmanship.

For more information, visit www.usolympicteam.com on the Web or contact the local qualifying event host, Megan Perez, by phone at (785) 239-9223 or e-mail her at megan.n.perez@riley.army.mil.

Youth bowling workshop set

Child and Youth Services is planning a "Learn to Bowl Spring Break Workshop" from 9 a.m. to noon March 20-24 at Custer Hill Lanes.

Children ages 6-12 can participate. Registration is under way and the workshop fee is \$65.

For more information, call 239-4847.

Fitness staff needs trainers

The Fort Riley Fitness Department staff is looking for group fitness instructors and personal trainers. All applicants must be certified by a recognized association and have current CPR and first aid certification.

For more information, call 239-2813 or 239-3146.

Boxing champs crowned in Calif.

By Kimberly Williams

AFPS

NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY, Calif. — Army boxers topped all services with 13 points at the 2006 Armed Forces Boxing Championships at Naval Base Ventura County, Calif., the second week in February.

The Marine Corps took second place with 7 points, while the Navy and Air Force tied for third with 4 points each.

Each night of boxing brought in a full house of spectators to Port Huene's Warfield Gymnasium.

Days 1 and 2 of the tournament were full of exciting action. The boxers from each branch of the

military were excited about being in the championships — some participating in the tournament for the first time, others making their second or third appearance.

"It is a great honor and privilege to be part of this event," said Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Everett Montgomery, an aviation electrician's mate from Victoria, Texas. "It's a lot of work and

training is very intense, but it is worth it." Montgomery fought in the 201-plus-pound weight class.

"I feel good; this is my first time fighting at an event this big. I am thankful for the opportunity," said Airman 1st Class Andre Penn of the 28th Services Squadron at Ellsworth AFB, S.D. Although the Pensacola, Fla., native did not win his bout with Army 1st Lt. Boyd

Melson, he said he looks forward to winning his weight class in next year's tournament and being ranked as one of the nation's top 10 boxers.

Another fighter who came up short in the single-elimination tournament expressed the same sentiment. "I did what I could to

See Boxers, Page 22

Bigger not better



Carmelo Morales (20) and Antonio Johnson (8) of 1st Maint. Co. battle Lane Ehrdahl (16) of the 190th MPs for a rebound Feb. 15 in company level basketball action in the Northern League. The speedy Maintainers defeated the MPs 62-46.

Upcoming games

Southern League Feb. 27

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, plays Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, at 6 p.m., and Company A, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., plays Company B, 1st Bn., 16th Inf., at 7 p.m.

Northern League Feb. 27

172nd Chemical Company plays Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion, at 8 p.m.

Northern Standings (as of Feb. 15)

Team	W	L
HHC, 24th ID	5	2
Medd/Dentac	1	4
116th MP Co	3	2
997th MP Co	1	4
10th ASOS	0	6
Co A, 1-190 MPs	3	2
3-75th Inf	0	2
Co A, 1st Eng Bn	2	2
1st Mntc Co	6	1
172nd Chem Co	2	2

Eastern Standings (as of Feb. 14)

Team	W	L
331st Signal	4	4
HHC, 1-34 Armor	7	0
Co A, 1-34 Armor	6	1
Co C, 1-34 Armor	1	6
HHB/A 101st FSB	3	4
Co B, 101st FSB	3	4
HHC, 1st BCT	3	5
4th IBCT	1	6
610th BSB	5	3

Smaller maintenance team handcuffs MP team

By Mike Heronemus

Editor

With about half as many players suited up as its opponents, 1st Maintenance Company handcuffed Company A, 1st Battalion, 190th Military Police, 62-46,

in Northern League action at King Field House Feb. 15.

The Maintainers went into the game as favorites with a 5-1 season record, compared to the MPs' 3-1 record.

The yellow-jerseyed Maintainers ran the MPs into the floor with their fast pace and quick hands after the MPs

started the scoring with a quick field goal under the basket by Jeremy Jessen.

The teams traded baskets until D.J. Starks caught a long pass downcourt and slammed in 2 points with a reverse dunk that had the small crowd of spectators yelling approval.

Jessen added another 2 points to give

the Maintainers a 4-point lead, but the MPs fought back to keep the game close. Their efforts to pass long to lone teammates downcourt proved unsuccessful and created several MP turnovers.

Scoring remained close throughout

See Maintenance, Page 22

Soldiers named honorary coaches

By Anna Morelock

Staff writer

Two Fort Riley Soldiers replaced their weapons with basketballs Feb. 18 during the Kansas State University men's basketball game against Colorado.

Sgt. 1st Class Donald Bryant and Sgt. Jacob Podgurski, both from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, were made honorary coaches for the game.

As honorary coaches, their day started at 8 a.m. when the two shot around with the man who

invited them to the game, Steve Hanson.

Hanson, a salesman from Leawood, Kan., got four tickets to the game at a Catbacker auction. Hanson said he knew one of the court-side seats would go to his nephew, but he had to think about the other two tickets for a month or so.

He finally decided to give the tickets to Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans from Fort Riley.

"I just wanted to do something for somebody that has helped our country out," Hanson said. "It's a very small thing, but I just appre-

See Coaches Page 20

Troubles plague Nemechek

By David Ferroni

Army News Service

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Before one lap was even completed in the Daytona 500 Feb. 19, Joe Nemechek was the victim of another driver's problem. "What's frustrating is that we had a good car but never had the opportunity to be a challenger," said Nemechek, who was credited with a 33rd-place finish in the Nextel Cup season opener.

As the 43-car starting field was rounding Turn 3 on the first lap at Daytona International Speedway, Jeff Green suffered a cut tire. A few seconds later,

Green's tire came apart and the flying tread tore through the front-end of Nemechek's 01 Army car, causing severe body damage.

"We were not only aerodynamically handicapped from that point, we also lost the draft and there were 199 laps remaining," Nemechek explained. "You talk about your worst nightmare — that was it."

The incident forced Nemechek to come down pit road a number of times as the Army of One crew worked valiantly to repair the damage.

But as the race wore on during the misty afternoon at the 2.5-mile tri-oval, the problems

got worse for the 01 team. Nemechek once again found himself in the wrong place at the wrong time. On Lap 79, he got collected in a multi-car wreck that started when Green's No. 66 car spun out.

"Before that incident, we still had some hope of getting the Army car fixed and back in the hunt," Nemechek said. "But when I made contact with Green's out-of-control car, I thought we were done for the day and ready to load the car into the hauler. We had significant damage."

Though Nemechek's black

See Daytona, Page 22





TFD's Michael Galley (32) slips through Service Btry., 1st Bn., 5th FA, defenders Curby Dawsey (1) and William Oliver (right). Aaron Guy (22) trails the drive for the basket in case he is needed for a rebound. Guy was a tall threat under both baskets Feb. 16 as TFD came from behind to defeat Service Btry., 55-51. *Post/Heronemus*



TFD ekes through in overtime

Hotly contested game goes against artillerymen

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Task Force Dependable won in overtime in a close, hotly contested Southern League company level basketball game Feb. 16 at King Field House.

TFD came back from a 30-26 halftime deficit to win 55-51 against Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery. A referee stopped the game twice to confer once with one player of each team and the second time with the coaches of each team about unsportsmanlike conduct.

The Artillery came into the game with a 5-2 season record. TFD came in with 3-3 in the books.

Unlike many of the games played this season, both teams opted for a slower pace of play to start.

TFD appeared to dominate play close to the basket and used that advantage to go up 4-0 on a field goal and two free throws by Jason McCauslin.

The Artillery's Jarin Durgins shot long for a 3-pointer to move within one. Aaron Guy added 2 points with a put back for TFD, but Shannon Olsson hit another long one for the Artillery to tie the game at 6.

Another exchange of baskets kept the game tied at 8.

TFD eked out a 17-13 lead about midway through the first half, but the Artillery began using a fast break offense that started to jell. On one fast break, Curley Dawsey flipped a pass behind his

Southern Standings (as of Feb. 16)

Team	W	L
HHC, 1-16 Inf	4	0
Co A, 1-16 Inf	2	4
Co B, 1-16 Inf	5	0
HHC, 1-5 FA	3	3
Btry B, 1-5 FA	2	3
Btry D, 1-5 FA	2	4
Svc Btry, 1-5 FA	5	3
D Tpt, 4th Cav	1	6
HHC TFD	4	3

back to Durgins, who layed the ball in for 2 points.

Edgar Drysdale tied the game at 17 with his driving lay-up, but failed to convert a foul shot that would have given the Artillery the lead for the first time in the game.

Dawsey and Stephen Jones combined on the next fast break to get the lead with seven minutes left in the first half. Durgins and Jones combined on another fast break to put the Artillery up 23-20. The Artillery ended the half ahead 30-26.

Olsson led Artillery scoring in the half with 11 points and one trey. Jones added 6 and Durgins and Drysdale scored 5 each, including a 3-pointer apiece.

McCauslin led TFC scoring with 15 points in the half, including a 3-pointer. Michael Galley and Caleb Campbell each put up 3-pointers for TFD.

TFD began to rally in the sec-

ond half and moved ahead 44-40 with 6:51 showing on the clock.

The Artillery tied the game at 44 when McCauslin drove the baseline to put in a difficult lay-up.

Each team added 3-pointers on the next two successful offensive efforts to keep the score tied at 47 after three more minutes had lapsed. Dawsey missed two charity shots coming off a TFD technical foul in the final minute of play, but Olsson hit a lay-up to tie the game at 49 and force the game into overtime.

Right after the overtime began, McCauslin drove through the lane for a lay-up that put TFD up 51-49, then sank a foul shot to expand the lead to 52-49.

Jones found Olsson near the basket and he sank the ball for 2 points to narrow the lead to 52-51.

With time running out, the Artillery began to foul intentionally, sending TFD to the charity stripe for three uncontested points that won the game for them.

Guy led TFD scoring in the second half with 10. Campbell added 8 points, including a trey, and McCauslin added 5.

Olsson led Artillery scoring in the second half with 8 points, including a trey. Jewel Brock added 6.

Mike Heronemus can be contacted at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or 239-8854.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL ABILENE
1 x 2'
Black Only
1x2 Heartland Laser

Coaches

continued from page 19

ciate what they've done and I think it's very important we all understand how important our freedom is."

Bryant was deployed in support of OIF from January 2004 to September 2004. He served as a platoon sergeant for Company B. He received a Bronze Star and was recommended for the Combat Action Badge.

Podgurski served with HHC as a signal support systems specialist and gunner in support of OIF from September 2003 to September 2004. He received the Army Commendation Medal and was recommended for the Combat Action Badge.

Bryant and Podgurski were chosen from their unit because they were known to be basketball fans.

"I'm normally a Texas fan," said Bryant, a Texas native, "but today I'll be a K-State fan." Podgurski, who is from Indiana, said he is a big college basketball fan but usually roots for Purdue.

After practicing their shooting skills with Hanson and his nephew, the four men ate breakfast and met the team.

Bryant said the team and the coaches were all very nice and each introduced themselves to the Soldiers.

After meeting with the team before the game, the four ticket-holders took their courtside seats.

"I've never had seats this close except when I was playing in high school," Podgurski said.

With just under four minutes left in the first half, Bryant and Podgurski were taken onto the court during a time out where they were each presented an autographed basketball.

Bryant and Podgurski said they had fun at the game and that it felt great to be honored in such a way for their service.

"It kind of makes everything we do worth it just to see the community support Soldiers," Bryant said.

Anna Morelock can be contacted at 239-3032 or anna.morelock@riley.army.mil.



Post/Morelock

Sgt. 1st Class Donald Bryant (right) and Sgt. Jacob Podgurski walk off the court at Bramlage Coliseum after receiving the autographed basketballs Feb. 18 just before halftime at the Wildcat game played against Colorado..

FIRESTONE/BRIDGESTONE
2 x 13"
Black Only
2x13 Firestone 2/24

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
1 x 2.5'
Black Only
1x2.5 1st. Presb Feb TF

PRAIRIE HAWK CYCLE &
LEATHER,
1 x 1.5"
Black Only
1x1.5 Prairie Hawk Feb TF

STATE FARM INSURANCE
1 x 6'
Black Only
1x6 Renters

KSU DIVISION OF CONTIN. EDUCAT
3 x 6'
Black Only
3x6 KSU Cont. Ed





COMMANDER FOURTH REGION (ROTC)
6 x 21.25"
Black Only
6x21.5 there's a name for sold





Maintenance

continued from page 19

the first half, with each team seemingly mimicking the offensive success of its opponent. A Maintainer 3-point field goal by Antonio Johnson from above the key was matched a little later by Jessen.

From that point, the Maintainers began to heat up and their pressure defense, double teaming and swing offense took a toll on the MPs.

Johnson hit another trey, Antonio Hamilton layed up another 2-pointer and 2 points at the charity stripe by Carmelo Morales widened the Maintainers' lead before Lane Ehrdahl stopped the MP bleeding with 2 points from under the basket.

Starks came back with a high jumper that swished the nets for the Maintainers, but the MPs added 3 more points courtesy of Brett Buen, who hit a 2-pointer on his drive to the basket and got another point from the charity stripe.

Johnson calmed any MP excitement about a rally with two successive treys that ended scoring until the halftime buzzer. The MPs' Brandon Watts got fouled at the buzzer and added 2 points to his team's tally while everyone waited for the mid-game break to end.

Johnson was credited with 14 of the Maintainers' first-half points — four of them treys. Hamilton added 10 points to the effort and Starks put in 4 points.

Jessen led MP scoring in the first half with 5 points, one of them a trey. Watts added 4 and Buen had 3.



Post/Heronemus

Brett Buen of the 190th MPs drives the lane against 1st Maint. Co. defenders Carmelo Morales (20) and Antonio Johnson (8) Feb. 15 in Northern League action at King Field House.

The Maintainers began the second half with a 32-24 lead. The 8-point spread doubled by the end of the game.

The Maintainers worked the fast break to their advantage through most of the second half, and on one play, Johnson slammed home another reverse dunk to thrill the spectators. His third dunk attempt a short time later rebounded high into the air, however, and left a sheepish grin on Johnson's face.

Starks led Maintainer scoring

in the second half with 10 points. Hamilton added 9 points, including a trey. Johnson added 7 points, including a trey.

MP scoring was sparse throughout the half, but Buen scored 5 and Nolan Gibson added 3.

The Maintainers advanced to 6-1 for the season. The MPs fell to 3-2.

Mike Heronemus can be contacted at mike.heronemus@riley.army.mil or 239-8854.

Boxers

continued from page 19

win, but unfortunately, I didn't," said Marine Corps Cpl. Raymond Maldonado from Fort Worth, Texas. "I am looking forward to upcoming tournaments and just continuing to train."

Other servicemembers fared better.

"My teammates and my father were screaming very loud, cheering me on, which motivated me," said Melson, assigned to Fort Carson, Colo. He defeated Penn to become a finalist for the AFBC. "I look forward to my upcoming fight with Navy in the finals here, and we will see where it takes me. I'm also looking forward to the U.S. Championships in March," said the White Plains, N.Y., native.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Triva Pino, a USS Port Royal Sailor and Leadville, Colo., native became the first Navy female Armed Forces Boxing Champion when she defeated Senior Airman LeJoyce Grossett in four rounds.

Other gold medal finalists and their weight classes were:

Marine Lance Cpl. Hugo

Ramirez and Army Sgt. Jose Jimenez, 125 pounds;

Spec. Charles Rios and Marine Lance Cpl. Todd Dekenderen, 132 pounds;

Marine Corps Sgt. Eric Canales and Senior Airman Hector Ramos, 141 pounds;

Melson and Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Adam Fusinato, 152 pounds;

Marine Corps Cpl. Jorge Arjona and Spec. Quentin McCoy, 165 pounds;

Air Force 1st Lt. Rodney Ellison and Army Staff Sgt. Christopher Downs, 178 pounds; and

Marine Corps Sgt. Jacob Garretson, Army Sgt. Joe Guzeman, Army Sgt. Andrew Shepard and Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Everett Montgomery, 201-plus pounds.

The final day of competition proved to be the most exciting. The crowd was double the size of the two previous days of the tournament and twice as pumped.

"This type of tournament is good for morale, and we are all excited to witness it," said Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Brian

Santa Cruz, Naval Weapons Test Squadron Point Mugu, Calif. "It makes me want to get out there and participate."

After winning the AFBC, many boxers immediately began to focus on their next tournament. "Today I was feeling good and my reflexes were in good shape," said Ramos, who is assigned to the 60th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. "My coaches were giving me good advice in the corner, and I won the fight. It means a lot to be armed forces champion."

At the end of the final day of boxing, each boxer was presented with a gold or silver medal, depending on where they finished in the tournament.

Gold medal winners were Franklin, Jimenez, Dekenderen, Ramos, Fusinato, McCoy, Downs, Garretson and Shepard.

The National Boxing Championship will be held March 4-7 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Kimberly Williams is assigned to Naval Base Ventura County public affairs.

Daytona

continued from page 19

and gold Army car looked like it was ready for the junkyard, the Army team refused to throw in the towel.

"Ryan (crew chief Ryan Pemberton) and the pit crew were absolutely awesome," Nemechek

said.

"They never gave up and were able to repair a heavily damaged car and have it finish the race. I was very impressed and very proud of each and every one of the guys. We're going to be just

fine, and I think California will be a strong race for us."

Nemechek was referring to the second race of the 36-race Nextel Cup series scheduled Feb. 26 at the California Speedway in Fontana.





Travel & Fun

Page 24

America's Warfighting Center

Friday, February 24, 2006

Leisure time ideas

At the movies:

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for children 11 and under. Children under the age of 5 are free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

Feb. 24 - Hostel (R) 95 min (PG-13) 112 min

Feb. 26 - Hostel (R) 95 min (PG-13) 112 min

March 2 - The Last Holiday (PG-13) 112 min

For more information, call 784-2226 or 784-2640.

Get away and explore Kansas. Check out details on these and other events on the Kansas Travel & Tourism Web site, www.travelKS.com.

Overland Park:

What: Red Grammer and Tom Chapin. It's guitars and good humor when these two ever-popular folk artists bring their family friendly songs for a 75-minute sure-fire pleaser for kids of all ages. With a dozen albums and multiple Grammy and Parents' Choice Awards between them, the two gifted entertainers' remarkable musicianship, great songwriting, and personal warmth always shine through.

When: 2 p.m. Feb. 25

Where: 12345 College Blvd., Carlsen Center of Johnson County Community College

Phone: (913) 469-4445

Web site: <http://web.jccc.net/carlsencenter/>

Admission: Adult \$10; youth 12 or younger \$7

Wichita:

What: EquiFest of Kansas. A sensational showcase of equine entertainment and education. Spectacular demonstrations, stunning stallions - a horse lover's paradise. Fantastic shopping - everything for horse, rider, farm, and home. World-class experts and clinicians appearing daily: Chris Cox, Curt Pate, Peggy Cummings, Michael Richardson, Sandy Howard, Judith Cross-Strehlke, Sherman Tegtmeyer and Larry Whitesell.

When: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Feb. 24-26

Where: 1229 E. 85th St., North Kansas Coliseum, Park City

Phone: (316) 755-1243

Web site: <http://www.kansashorsecon.com>

Admission: \$10.50 per day for adults

Liberal:

What: International Pancake Day. 57-year tradition, between ladies of Liberal and Olney, England. Pancake breakfast, contests, parade, Miss Liberal Pageant and High Tea.

When: Hours vary by event, Feb. 25-28

Where: Pancake Boulevard
Phone: (620) 624-6423 or (800) 542-3725

Admission: Varies

Celtic fiddling

Virtuoso explores tradition

Special to the Post

LAWRENCE, Kan. - The Lied Center of Kansas presents Eileen Ivers, Irish fiddler, with Immigrant Soul, a group that combines traditional Irish, African, Latin and Caribbean influences into inventive and energetic performances at 7:30 p.m. March 3.

Ivers, nine-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion, was raised in the Bronx, N.Y., by her Irish immigrant parents. She immersed herself in the different genres of music she experienced in that culturally diverse neighborhood and now performs electrifying mixes of cultural music for audiences around the world.

Her boldly imaginative and clearly virtuosic performances alter the medium, and she is hailed as one of the great innovators and pioneers in the Celtic and world music genres. The Washington Post said, "She suggests the future of the Celtic fiddle."

Ivers has recorded music for more than 80 traditional and contemporary

albums and numerous movie scores. Her latest CD is entitled Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul.

She is one of the most sought-after symphony and pops guest artists and has been privileged to share the stage with Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and Regina Carter, two of the world's most celebrated violinists, in the critically acclaimed pops event "Fiddlers Three."

She also has been honored by ZETA Music, the world's leading electric stringed instrument maker, by its introduction of the

Eileen Ivers Signature Series blue violin. Ivers' band includes Tommy McDonnell, lead vocals, harmonica and percussion; Isaac Alderson, Uilleann pipes, flutes and whistles; James Riley, guitar; and Gregory Jones, acoustic and electric bass.

Immediately following the performance, Coffee and Conversation with the Artists will provide audience members with a question-and-answer session with the artists about their work and creative process.

Eileen Ivers & Immigrant Soul's performance is part of the Conflict and Creativity project presented by the Lied Center. In conjunction with the performances, an exhibit, A Closer Look at Ireland, will be on display in the Lied Center lobby through March 6.

If you go:

Tickets are on sale at the Lied Center Ticket Office (785) 864-ARTS/2787, the University Theatre Ticket Office-Murphy Hall (785) 864-3982, SUA Office-Kansas Union (785) 864-SHOW, any Ticketmaster outlet (785) 234-4545 and (816) 931-3330 and on-line at TICKETS.COM and TicketMaster.com.

All phone orders may be made using MasterCard or VISA.

All seats are reserved. Ticket prices are \$28 and \$23 for the general public; \$14 and \$11.50 for KU and Haskell students and children 0-18 years of age; \$27 and \$22 for senior citizens 62 and older.

Publicity photo
Eileen Ivers will perform March 3 at the Lied Center in Lawrence, Kan.



Medal of Honor exhibit unveiled

By Sara Wood
AFPS

WASHINGTON - In a tribute to those who have gallantly served the country, the Pentagon unveiled a photographic exhibit titled "Visions of Valor" Feb. 3.

The exhibit features dramatic portraits of 101 Medal of Honor recipients and is on display in the Pentagon's "A" ring on all five floors. Seven Medal of Honor recipients were on hand for the opening ceremony, joining Defense Department and military leaders.

"We could think of no better place to have this set of photographs than in the Pentagon," said David J. McIntyre Jr., president and chief executive officer of TriWest, the company that purchased the exhibit from photographer Nick Del Calzo.

McIntyre, whose company is under contract to provide health care to military members in the TriCare West region, said he was humbled to be in the presence of the Medal of Honor recipients.

"In our day, where we struggle to find heroes that matter, I would suggest that we look no farther than those who wear the Medal of Honor," he said.

Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England also praised the heroes, saying that the Medal of Honor is "earned by only a few, but revered by millions."

This exhibit will be a source of inspiration to all who view it, he said.

"It is important to have heroes,



Gary Littrell, Medal of Honor recipient and president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, walks through the "Visions of Valor" exhibit at the Pentagon Feb. 3.

because they set standards," he said. "People know what can be achieved."

Gary Littrell, Medal of Honor recipient and president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, said the photo project is the first of its kind. He wishes it had been done sooner, he said, because the ranks of Medal of Honor recipients are diminishing as the years go by. Only 150 of 3,441 Medal of Honor recipients were alive when the project began five years ago, and now only 117 remain.

The Medal of Honor recipients were made into heroes by Congress and the president, Littrell said, but he hopes the exhibit will teach people that they aren't the only ones with the capacity for greatness.

"We are all just ordinary men that were placed in an extraordinary situation," he said. "Any young Soldier, Sailor, Airman or Marine or any young school child growing up today, put in the same situation, could do the same thing."

Walter Joseph Marm, another Medal of Honor recipient at the

event, echoed the same humility. Marm was recognized for his actions as an Army lieutenant in the battle of La Drang Valley, Vietnam, in November 1965. That battle was made famous by the 2002 movie "We Were Soldiers."

"Most of us feel that all the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen are doing outstanding things now and back then, too," he said. "We just represent them, and we're the caretakers of the medal for all the men and women that have served."

General steams into JC

Classic film set for special screening

By Gail Parsons
Director, JCAC

A classic 1927 silent motion picture, "The General," starring the great comedian Buster Keaton will be the feature attraction of a special film screening at the Junction City Municipal Building at 2 p.m. Feb. 26.

This event is sponsored by the Junction City Arts Council and will feature live music by the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra. This five-member group from Denver, Colo., has been supplying music for silent films for more than a decade in live performances in New York, California, Texas, Iowa and Topeka at the annual Kansas Silent Film Festival.

The orchestra also has produced several CDs of their music and supplied scores for classic silent films on DVD.

Buster Keaton, born in Piqua, Kan., in 1895, went on to a career in Vaudeville with his parents before breaking into the movies in the 1920s. The 19 shorts and 13 feature films he made during the silent film era are now regarded as classics of screen comedy. His genius is celebrated every year at an annual Buster Keaton Celebration in Iowa, not far from Piqua.

Keaton died in 1967, but his late widow, Eleanor, attended many of the Iowa celebrations.

The Mont Alto Orchestra will warm up the afternoon matinee with an overture and a hilarious short comedy from the 1920s, "Limousine Love," starring Keaton contemporary Charley Chase.

"The General" will follow with one intermission.

"The General" is the story of Civil War locomotive engineer Johnny Gray, who chases after his train, the General, after it is stolen by Union army spies. The chase takes up the entire film as Johnny recaptures his train and then leads the Union soldiers back into enemy territory.

This grand epic comedy is considered one of the finest American movies ever made.

Tickets cost \$8 for adults and \$5 for children and are available at the Junction City Customer Service Desk, 700 N. Jefferson St., and at the Arts Council, 107 W. Seventh St.

For more information, call 762-2581.

Students display art

By Chloe Bos

Kansas State University
MANHATTAN, Kan. - Kansas State University art graduate students will display their artwork in the Mark A. Chapman Art Gallery in Willard Hall this spring.

As part of their master's of fine arts thesis, students are required to display a collection of their artwork in the gallery.

The gallery is open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Admission is free.

The following graduate students' artwork will be on display:

• Feb. 27 to March 10: Lazare Rottach will display figurative ceramic sculptures.

• March 13 to March 24: Leah Bestmann will display paintings and drawings.

• May 5 to May 26: Mark Gilder will display landscape and urban scenes in prints and drawings.

